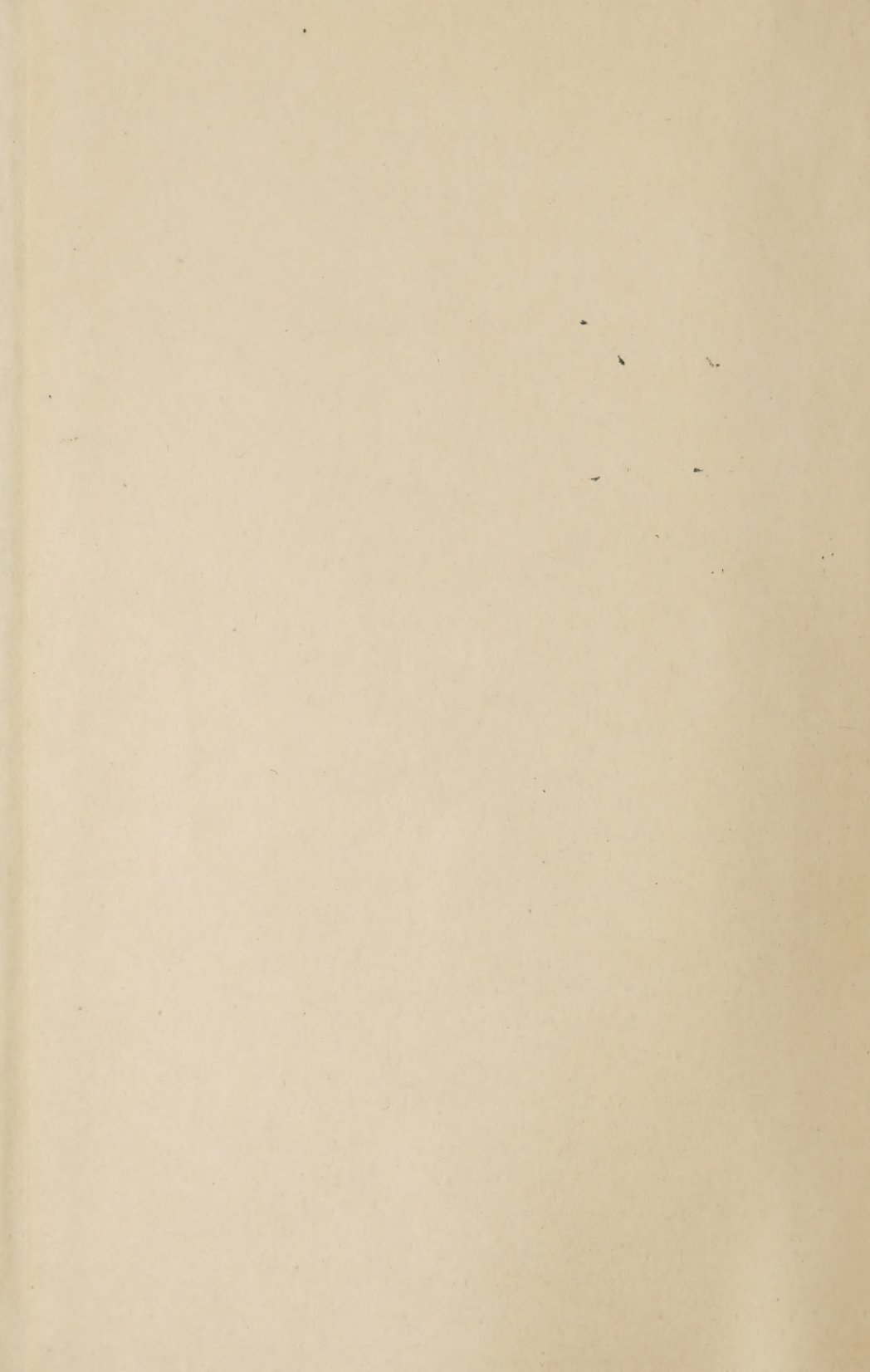
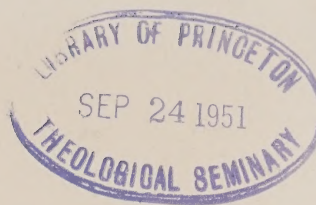


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HISTORY

of the

EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

of the

CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST

by

PHARES BRUBAKER GIBBLE ✓

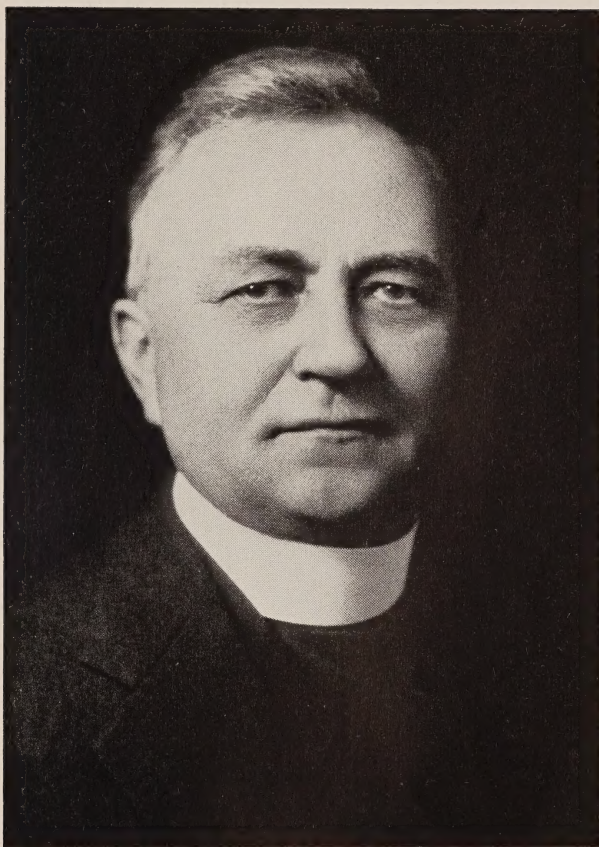
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Church of the United Brethren in Christ*

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DEDICATION

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN
WHOSE NAMES ARE HEREIN
RECORDED AND TO THEIR AS-
SOCIATES WHO GAVE TIME,
TOIL, AND TEARS IN SERVICE
AND DEVOTION TO CHRIST
AND THE CHURCH, THIS VOL-
UME IS HUMBLY AND AFFEC-
TIONATELY DEDICATED.



Bishop Grant D. Batdorf, D.D., Ph.D., LL.D.
Bishop of the Eastern Area, 1929-45
Bishop Emeritus, since 1945

Church of the United Brethren in Christ



Bishop J. Balmer Showers, D.D., LL.D.
Bishop of the Eastern Area, since 1945

Church of the United Brethren in Christ

PREFACE

A history of the East Pennsylvania Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ has been long overdue. It was the author himself who suggested as early as 1938 that steps be taken to prepare a volume on the work of the East Pennsylvania and the East German conferences, whose proceedings in bound copies he had already listed.

The Conference is greatly indebted to the Reverend Phares B. Gible, D.D., Conference Historian since 1936, for his long and painstaking efforts to produce this worthy consummation of a long-felt need, a volume which was authorized by a special committee appointed by the Conference in 1942. This committee consisted of the Reverends S. C. Enck, D.D., D. E. Young, D.D., P. B. Gible, D.D., and Messrs. O. E. Good, E. W. Coble, and M. O. Bellow.* The committee met on May 2, 1943, to plan for the carrying out of the assignment, and Dr. Gible was chosen to prepare the history; he began writing in 1943.

The author's task has been tremendous. It has involved his efforts to promote the preservation and collection of all historical data pertaining to local churches, and quarterly and annual conferences. As far back as 1937 he had become the custodian of materials formerly in the possession of the Conference Secretary. It also involved the translation of conference proceedings from the German. It required the protracted investigation of County Court records and extensive traveling over the present and former conference areas. Three periods of research at the Otterbein Press and the Bonebrake Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, were necessitated. Numerous visits to the historic shrines of Lancaster County and many other places were made to obtain the correct geographical settings. Earlier historical accounts were reviewed and evaluated. Now, after years of research, the author has produced the first history of the East Pennsylvania Conference, as such. This former pastor of the Old Otterbein Church in Baltimore makes old events live again, and the reader will cherish anew his denominational and conference heritage. Only this successful pastor, with a ministerial service dating back to 1910, could have written this history so acceptably. Qualified by temperament, education, historical insight, and experience, including his Presidency of the Lebanon County Historical Society, 1946-1948, he has given us a volume which combines a wealth of material, discriminating selectivity, interpretive insight, accuracy of treatment, and readability—a history which will be interesting, informing and useful to minister and layman alike.

In his reconstruction of the past the author first gives us an account of the growth of the Conference in membership and area.

Then he goes on to particularize concerning individual churches, beginning with the churches and circuits of Lancaster County and then proceeding to deal with the other sections of the Conference. This "Church by Church" historical treatment will enable the reader to accentuate and vivify the origin and development of any local church in which he may be particularly interested and to see all this in relation to the expansion of the work of our Conference from humble beginnings to our present status as one of the strongest conferences of the denomination and one of the larger denominations of Protestantism.

The significance of this volume is not merely that it is the first published history of the East Pennsylvania Annual Conference: that in itself is notable. The chief significance lies in the fact that it is a history of the grace of God as mediated through our Lord Jesus Christ and communicated by Spirit-led men to multitudes of mostly humble folk of German and rural origin. It is a history of evangelism and consecration, which eventuated in the building of churches to perpetuate their message. This is illustrated in this present volume, which goes far beyond previously published accounts. The old materials have been subjected to careful scrutiny and revision; persistent errors have been corrected. Here the reader will peruse the activities of the founding fathers and their successors—activities described in terms of their relatedness to one another and evaluated with reference to their contribution to the denomination and the Conference. As the result of the merger of our Church with the Evangelical Church, conferences will also merge and old lines may become obliterated and future generations may be inclined to forget the rock from whence we are hewn. Dr. Gible's book will always be serviceable in keeping alive names and events which still inspire men and women to know God experimentally and to become good churchmen.

Clyde A. Lynch, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D.

President of Lebanon Valley College

* Appointed in 1950, in place of O. E. Good, deceased

INTRODUCTION

This volume contains the history of two annual conferences—East Pennsylvania and East German—treated as one. The two, operating separately, covered about the same geographical area as did East Pennsylvania before division and after union. During the period of separate existence, there were many shiftings between them of ministerial membership and local church affiliation. To state, in each case, the conference involved would have required numerous repetitions. To treat each conference as a distinct unit would have meant much duplication and would have made this treatise too lengthy.

The name of the German conference was, "East German Conference," over two periods; and "Eastern Conference," also, over two periods. To avoid confusion, the designation, "East German Conference," is used throughout. Each conference changed from spring to fall in holding sessions. For East German Conference this change was made in the year 1881, for East Pennsylvania Conference, in the year 1889. This accounts for the frequent use of "Feb." and "Oct." in the listing of circuits and pastoral appointments.

The period of time covered in this narrative, with but few exceptions, ends with the conference session of the year 1946. By merger of the Evangelical Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ at Johnstown, Pennsylvania in November 1946, a new denomination had its beginning. To extend the treatise beyond that event would have required a new nomenclature all along the line. Among the exceptions are the inclusions of up-to-date photographs of churches and personnel, and a list of ministers as of the year 1950.

In order to conserve space, initials are used in the body of the text in recording names of ministers; full names are given in the several lists in later chapters of the volume. In checking one against the other, discrepancies, no doubt, will be evident. There will occur, also, differences in spelling of proper names. Some are due to differences in family usage, some because of variations of translation, while others may be due to mistakes by the author.

Precious few items have been admitted which did not meet the test of historic accuracy. Verbal traditions which could not be verified by authentic written records were not accepted. Years of ministerial service as appearing in local church histories—some of which were according to what people could recall to memory, others copied from incorrect lists—were corrected to agree with annual conference proceedings.

The writer has tried to produce a factual history. This aim, because of so large a body of information incorporated, did not permit literary embellishment nor philosophical deduction. Because of the

nature of the subject matter treated, particularly relative to local church narratives, there is much sameness, which, indeed, tends to monotony of expression. There was, however, no skill known to the writer by which to employ fluency of style.

Dr. Drury's excellent statement, "The two eyes of history are geography and chronology," always a guiding formula for the writer, has definitely influenced him in this particular effort. He has always held that facts which are not fastened down to time and place are meaningless and very elusive to memory. Consequently, there appear a profusion of dates and numerous descriptions relative to place.

There may seem to be a lack of emphasis upon spiritual matters. Let the reader be assured, however, that the author was constantly mindful of the work of the Holy Spirit in this drama of history. The acts of the people who participated in it speak for themselves; extended comments were thought to be unnecessary.

Comparatively few notes appear. In instances where controversial matters are discussed, where authenticity of statement might be questioned, and where editorial courtesy demanded, it did seem prudent to indicate references. A complete annotation of sources consulted, especially as pertains to Newcomer's Journal and annual and quarterly conference proceedings, would have required one or more notes to every page. In many instances sources are indicated in the body of the text.

The writer desires to express his deep appreciation to all who in any way have given assistance. He is sincerely grateful to the committee which considered him worthy of the responsibility involved. To have lived so intimately with those who had so large a share in founding and perpetuating the work of a great Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ has been an inspiration, to write so that future generations may know of their good works was a labor of love.

Phares B. Gible, A.M., D.D.

Ephrata, Pennsylvania
August, 1950



Phares B. Gible, A.M., D.D.
Conference Historian and Author

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Chapter I

CONFERENCE NAME AND AREA

The geographical area now within the bounds of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference was part of the original United Brethren Conference. The members of the first regular yearly conference held at the home of Peter Kemp near Frederick, Maryland, in the year 1800, did not set geographical limits within which to carry on their ministerial labors, nor did they designate a conference name under which they would operate. Their labors at the time were confined to certain areas within the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Consequently, these areas comprised what the historians write of as being the "Old" or the "Original Conference."

In recording the proceedings of the session of the year 1820, the secretary, John Hildt, for the first time used what may be considered to be a conference title, it is; "Der Jährliche Conference der Vereinigte Brüder in Christo," ("The Annual Conference of the United Brethren in Christ"). The secretaries of the conference of which the East Pennsylvania area was a part continued to head the proceedings, until 1838, as though there were no other conferences in existence. It is therefore evident that the brethren of those early years were not concerned about a conference name or title.

The first division affecting our area was ordered by the General Conference of 1829 by the following resolution: "Resolved that the Hagerstown District be divided to the best advantage." The committee appointed to carry out this action reported thus: "The said district shall in the future consist of the whole of Virginia, and the counties of Washington and Allegheny in Maryland, and that the remaining part of said district shall consist of a new one to be called the Harrisburg District." The northern district or conference thus formed was never called, "Harrisburg," by those who recorded the proceedings. The conference secretaries continued to use the title, "Conference of the United Brethren in Christ," making no geographical distinctions, until the year 1838, when for the first time, the title, "Annual Conference of the United Brethren in Christ for the Pennsylvania District," appears. Incidentally, this is the first year the proceedings are recorded in English, Rev. John G. Snyder being the English Secretary.

Allegheny Conference was set off from the northern district or conference in the year 1838. It seems strange that this action was taken in the Annual Conference, not in the General Conference. The committee appointed, reported: "The dividing line to commence at the Maryland line on the Tuscarora Mountain, from thence along the mountain east (northeast) to the Juniata River, from thence to the mouth of said river, from thence north along the Susquehanna

River to the North Branch, from thence a straight line to Lake Erie. Resolved that the west part thus cut off by the committee be called the Allegheny Conference." The dividing off of Allegheny Conference would need no mention here except for the fact that only nine years after the action was taken, certain churches in that area were served by ministers who held membership in East Pennsylvania Conference, which arrangement was by agreement between the two conferences. General Conference, however, in 1849, 1853, and 1857, assigned territory west of the Susquehanna River to East Pennsylvania. It was a part of East Pennsylvania Conference until 1870, then of East German Conference until 1901.

East Pennsylvania Conference area was affected by a third major division of territory. The General Conference of 1845 delineated its boundary as follows: "East Pennsylvania Annual Conference embraces that part of the State of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna River, West Fork." The two conferences met in common session in 1846 at Florin. Though the geographical division had been made by General Conference action, the division of conference membership was left to the members in Annual Conference assembled. Upon calling the roll, the ministers were to respond, "east" or "west," according to their choice—thirty-eight answered "east," and forty-four answered "west."

East German Conference was formed of parishes within East Pennsylvania Conference, in the year 1869. The English language was now more widely used than formerly, but there were those who much preferred to continue the use of the German language in Christian worship. In order to meet this demand the German conference was organized. It was a case of a conference within a conference; a situation which at times gave rise to serious friction. This was to some extent caused by leaving open, and to the final disposal by Annual Conference, the question of membership in each, as can be seen from the nature of the resolution adopted by General Conference pertaining to division, which was as follows:

Resolved, That should any of the fields of labor in East Pennsylvania and East German conferences be dissatisfied to remain with the present named conference, the members of such station, circuit or mission, may express their desire by vote, to the next East Pennsylvania Conference, and be placed to such of the named conference as a majority of their votes may direct.

The German conference existed for thirty years. During that time its name was changed three times. In 1877, it was changed to, "Eastern Conference;" in 1881 to "East German;" and in 1897 to "Eastern Conference."

General Conference of the year 1881 ordered that East Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Conference be united. These two conferences, therefore, met in joint sessions four years, but as separate entities, not as one corporation. When the two conferences met for

the first joint session, the question of the legality of union was raised. East Pennsylvania had been incorporated by act of the General Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania under date of April 12th, 1866. At the first joint session, a committee, composed of Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner, G. A. Mark, Z. A. Colestock, Ezekiel Light and C. T. Stearn, was appointed to ascertain the proper method of procedure. The committee reported, that by consulting legal counsel they,

find it will be necessary for each Conference, in separate session, for the present, before final adjournment to ratify and confirm the doings of the joint sessions of this conference. By so doing no chartered rights or privileges of either Conference will be jeopardized in the least.

This procedure was followed during the quadrennium, at the end of which period the conferences again met separately.

After a period of thirty years the churches of East Pennsylvania, and East German or Eastern Conference, except those west of the Susquehanna River belonging to the German conference, were brought together in one. Various attempts had been made to bring about this union. As early as 1877, East Pennsylvania adopted the following resolution:

That this Conference, after seven years of experience since the division of our Annual Conference, whereby we have two conferences covering the same territory and both using English and German languages, would hereby express our conviction that the real interests of the church within the bounds of the old East Pennsylvania Annual Conference demand that the ensuing General Conference unite two conferences (East Pennsylvania and East German), into one annual Conference, as they were before the division was made.

The annual session of the same conference, year 1878, again took up the question of union, asking for the appointment of members by each conference to meet as a joint commission in the year 1879, said commission to report to the sessions of 1881. The reaction to this is reflected in a resolution adopted by the German conference in its 1879 session. It is as follows:

We have examined and thoroughly considered the subject presented to us by East Pennsylvania Conference of the United Brethren Church, touching the re-uniting or proper bounding of the East Pennsylvania Conference and the Eastern Conference, and, after due deliberation, offer the following: "Resolved, as peace is one of the essentials necessary to success in the church of Christ, we respectfully decline to agitate said question in any way, believing that time alone will correct, rectify and settle the question."

General Conference, from time to time, dealt with the problems involved, by establishing fixed geographical boundaries. But after each attempt there remained difficulties in overlapping of bound-

aries and other contingencies which seemingly could not be avoided. The proceedings of the quadrennial session of 1889 reveal there was wide divergence of opinion at that time on the subject of union. However, in a little more than a decade later all obstacles were overcome. Time indeed, in the language of the German brethren did, "correct, rectify, and settle the question."

The union was consummated by General Conference action in 1901. The report of the boundary committee having to do with the union, follows: "That Eastern and East Pennsylvania conferences be united, and that such conference be called, "Eastern Pennsylvania Conference," with the following boundaries:

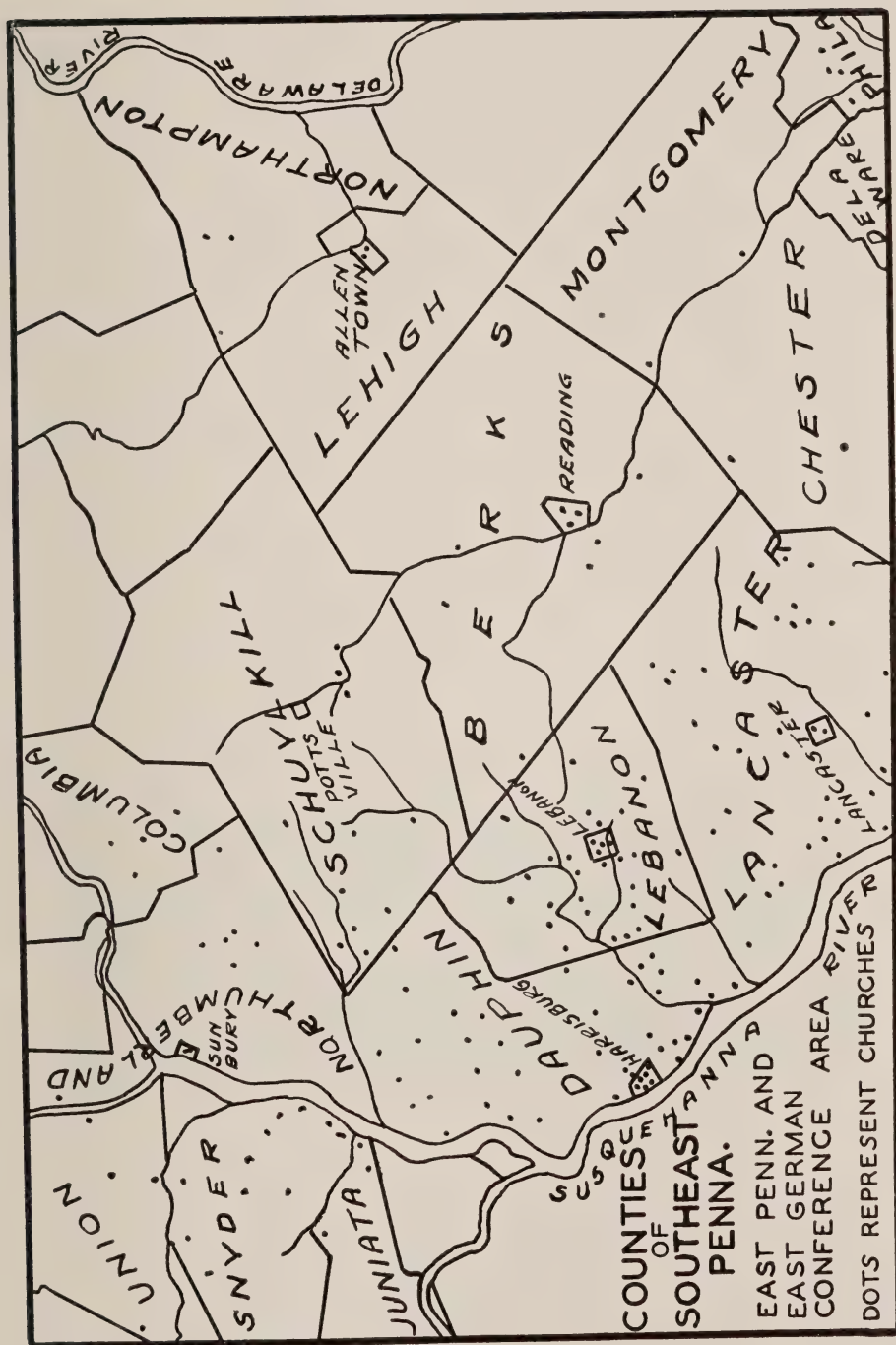
Beginning at the northeast boundary of the State of New Jersey on the Atlantic Coast; thence along the said boundary line and the Delaware River to the northern boundary of Pennsylvania; thence westward along said boundary to the north branch of the Susquehanna River; thence southward along the east shore of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northward along the Atlantic Coast to the place of beginning. Said conference shall be the legal successor of the Eastern Conference and East Pennsylvania Conference.

The item was adopted without discussion. In addition to settling the question of union, this action also returned to Allegheny Conference all territory west of the Susquehanna River, North Branch. The act of union ended all controversy on the subject and today it remains only a matter of historic record. Like all other disputable questions, of lesser importance, it fades into insignificance in the onward march of a conference and a denomination which have as their goal, a united fellowship within the body of Christ. The boundaries of the conference remain as established in 1901. There has been, however, a change in name. The following General Conference changed its name to, "East Pennsylvania."

As concerns the general geographical boundary between Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania from 1846 onward, several exceptions prevailed. Congregations in Harrisburg and Philadelphia, in the early period, were served by pastors of the Pennsylvania Conference through an arrangement between the two conferences. Harrisburg Otterbein Church was officially with the same conference until a later date. Their individual record will appear in this work. Three churches in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, were under pastoral appointment of East Pennsylvania. Their records are fully treated in the, "History of Pennsylvania Conference."¹

Note

1. Dr. Paul E. Holdcraft, author.



CONFERENCE AREA

Chapter II

OUR PIONEERS

The spiritual movement which culminated in the founding of The United Brethren in Christ Church had its origin within the bounds of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference. It focused in one deeply-moving dramatic scene at a "Great Meeting" held in the barn on the farm of Isaac Long,¹ near Lancaster City on Whitsuntide, in the year 1767.² A large company of people of various denominations had gathered. So many people had come to the meeting that not all could be accommodated in the barn. An overflow meeting was held in the orchard nearby. Among the ministers present were Martin Boehm of the Mennonite Society and Philip William Otterbein of the German Reformed Church. Boehm preached the first discourse. When he had finished, and before he could take his seat, Otterbein arose, embraced him, exclaiming, "Wir sind Brüder!"—"We are Brethren"). This demonstration of spiritual passion and expression was more than an act. It was a symbol—a symbol that characterized the genesis and genius of that united brotherhood which when it came to full fruition was called, "The Church of the United Brethren in Christ."



Buildings on Isaac Long Farm

The causes and results of the general revival movement of the period cannot be restated in this connection. They have been given as an introductory statement, by nearly all who have written on general or sectional United Brethren Church history. Nor shall we attempt to cover in detail those causes and results which enter into the total United Brethren phase of it.

Inasmuch as the movement is embodied in and revolves about persons rather than organizations, the period of the background of

East Pennsylvania Conference will be told through the biographies of the men engaged in that movement. Carlyle, in one of his essays, writes: "History is the essence of innumerable biographies."³ Emerson wrote: "all history becomes subjective; in other words, there is properly, no history, only biography."⁴ United Brethren Church History is no exception to these statements.

There is abundant reason, why we should call Otterbein and Boehm, pioneers. Luccock cites Moffatt's translation of, Acts 3:15: "You killed the pioneer of life," and comments on it thus: "A pioneer is one who enlarges the possible area of life, one who pushes back the horizons and blazes the trail into new habitations for humanity. Jesus was not merely a horizontal pioneer, pushing back the horizons of continents. He was a vertical pioneer, opening up a way into the high heavens and depths of the human heart." In a very real sense, Otterbein and Boehm were pioneers fitting this description. That which happened at the Isaac Long meeting was the result of their exploring the hitherto untouched areas of unsundered life.

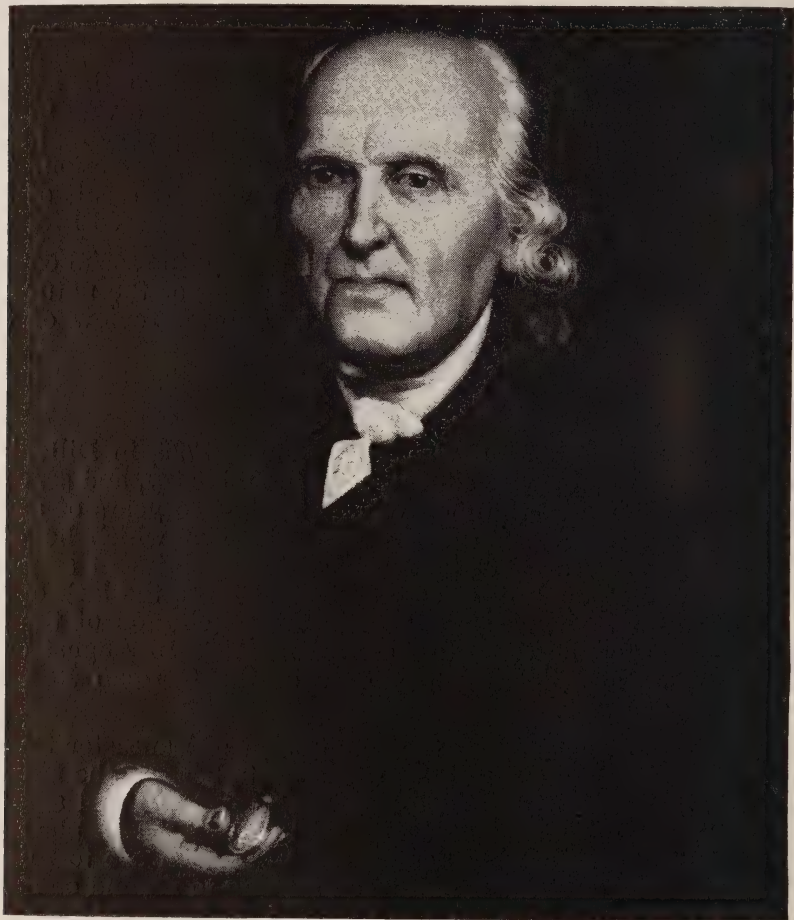
By noting the spiritual experiences and tracing the social contacts of these pioneers we arrive at an understanding of the nature and scope of the reformation they wrought. A brief review of their careers therefore follows.

Philip William Otterbein

Philip William Otterbein was born June 3, 1726, in Dillenburg, Nassau, Germany. He was educated for the ministry, and served as house-teacher for a brief time. When twenty-two years of age, he was appointed teacher in the Herborn school of which he was a graduate. In the year 1749, he received an appointment as pastor; and was ordained on July 13 of that year. Due to the lack of ministers in Penn's Province and through the solicitation of the Rev. Michael Schlatter, he came to America in 1752. In August of the same year, he accepted the pastorate of the German Reformed Church in Lancaster.

"Lancaster Townstead," as the county-seat of Lancaster County⁵ was called when laid out in 1730, was soon to become the most important center west of Philadelphia. It was incorporated as a borough in 1742. "Mechanics of every kind flocked to the place, and built small but comfortable homes, some of which are to this day (1883) to be seen on West King Street, serving to remind one of the time these unpretentious pioneers located in the place."⁶ Others of the citizens were traders, keepers of small shops, and owners of small industries. According to Governor Pownall, who visited it in 1754, it had about three hundred houses, and a population of two thousand. It is well to be impressed with the fact that Otterbein's contacts in this new parish were, for the most part, with town or city folk, as compared with the contacts Boehm had, which were entirely with rural folk. The city folk and the country folk, then, as for many years following, had little in common, except for trade.

The congregation, of which Otterbein took charge, had been organized in the year 1730. He gave all the vigor of his young manhood to the affairs of his parish. Before the first year had closed, he directed his congregation in the project of tearing down the log church, which had been erected in 1736, and in the erection of a new one. "The second church edifice, with its massive walls and large proportions, considering the time when it was built, was erected during his pastorate."⁷ A school was conducted in connection with the church.



Philip William Otterbein

In 1752, the Coetus met at Lancaster, in the schoolhouse. At this meeting the Reverend Otterbein asked that his schoolmaster (John Hoffman) be not passed over in the giving of donations, but that he be rewarded for his faithfulness. At a meeting of the Coetus in 1753, the Lancaster schoolmaster was given three pounds. The school received additional funds in 1758 from the sale of property bequeathed to the church by

Andrew Bersinger. A house and lot were sold and the money devoted to the parsonage and the schoolhouse.⁸

While Otterbein gave time to directing material enterprises, and to the supervision of the educational work of the parish, his deepest concern was for spiritual advancement.

Owing probably to the frequent vacancies which had occurred in the pastorate during some years previous, loose ideas came to prevail; and various irregularities, especially in regard to order and discipline, had gradually crept into the church. This was a source of grief to the pastor. He complained of many grievances which had rendered his ministry unhappy, and demanded as a condition of continuance, the exercise of a just ecclesiastical discipline, the abolition of all appearances of disorder, and entire liberty of conscience in the performance of his pastoral duties.⁹

Rev. Otterbein's labors were not confined to the Lancaster parish. He also preached at regular intervals at the Pequea Church, known also as the, "Old Dutch Church," of which the present Reformed Church along the highway north of New Providence, is the successor. The old church was located in Strasburg Township, one and three-quarter miles directly south of the Borough of Strasburg. Only a neglected brush and briar covered cemetery remains to mark the location.

One outstanding incident in the life of Otterbein, while at Lancaster, remains to be added. It, more than anything else, gave direction to his subsequent course. It may be said to have been the spiritual spark which a little more than a decade later burst forth in holy zeal and love as manifested at the Isaac Long meeting. Our first church historian, Rev. Spayth, refers to, but does not cite, "one circumstance of Otterbein's life in Lancaster."¹⁰ Lawrence, first, places this incident on record, writing thus,

Not long after he came to Lancaster, and immediately after he had preached one of his most searching discourses, a member of his congregation came to him in tears, bitterly lamenting his sins, and asked advice. Looking upon him sadly, yet tenderly, he only said: "My friend, advice is scarce with me today." The seeker went on his way, and Mr. Otterbein repaired to his closet, and there wrestled, like Jacob, until he obtained the forgiveness of sins, the witness of the Holy Spirit of adoption, and was filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory!¹¹

Dr. Drury repeats Otterbein's reply to his friend, as given by Lawrence, and makes comments on the incident.¹² Drury states that certain papers were left by Spayth which fixed the time of this incident to be about the year 1754.

Whatever the setting of this incident, or the conversation preceding and following it, Spayth, without doubt heard from the lips of Otterbein what had transpired, remembered the reply to the

inquirer, and recorded it in his notes. These words, "My friend, advice is scarce with me today," have become a classic in United Brethren tradition. The interpretation of them, as we notice by the comments thereon by the several historians, agree with Otterbein's practices and preachings subsequent to their utterance. We can only add that it was a crisis-experience—an occasion for probing deeper into spiritual areas, both of the human soul and the mysteries of God's redeeming grace.

The Tulpehocken Church in eastern Lebanon County next received the benefit of Otterbein's ministry sometime during the year 1758. It is sometimes called the, "Lower Tulpehocken Church," to distinguish it from the, "Upper Tulpehocken," or Host Church. The church was then and is now in a strictly rural community. It derived its name from a stream which drains a rich agricultural valley. Germans from the Schoharie Valley in New York settled in the Tulpehocken Valley in 1723. Other German immigrants came northwesterly along the Schuylkill River and took up land in the same valley. Many of these warrants are for land in Tulpehocken Township, Lancaster County, thus clearly showing that before the dividing off of Berks County, certain areas of the Tulpehocken were within the bounds of Lancaster County.

Otterbein's ministry extended eastward, well toward Reading; westward toward Lebanon; and some miles in extent both north and south of the Great Road leading from Reading to Harrisburg. The nearest contemporary parish was Christ Lutheran Church, situated about a mile eastward along the same Great Road, a few rods to the south of it. Dr. John Nicholas Kurtz was its pastor during the years, 1747-1770. Dr. Kurtz and Otterbein were again neighbors while serving pastorates at York, Pennsylvania.

The Trinity Reformed Church at Tulpehocken was organized sometime before 1745. In that year the first church building was put up of logs, on the southeast corner of the old cemetery, and near the present parsonage. The Rev. Michael Schlatter was one of the early preachers who came to the community and preached intermittently. Otterbein's spiritual venture in this second parish issued in the holding of evening meetings for prayer. It was an innovation. Its practice, method, and achievement stamped him a genuine pioneer. As is always the case, by a departure from the established order, he aroused much opposition and was severely criticized, even despised and persecuted. We are indebted to Spayth for information on the subject. He writes:

As the effects began to appear by some manifesting a serious concern for the salvation of their souls, by weeping and mourning on account of their low estate, these special and new meetings began to be called in question. Some approved of them—others shunned them. "What," they said! "The preacher, and men and women, kneel and pray, and weep, and call upon God and Jesus, to have mercy on them! Who ever heard of such a thing?" And yet it was heard and seen

now in a small way, and by a small beginning. *Thank God it was begun.* It brought blessings from heaven, and reproaches from men, including some preachers and pastors. And as might be expected, the seed thus sown and watered, God would sooner or later own and bless, and cause to spring up and bear fruit.¹³

Another innovation by Otterbein was to preach on weekdays. He furthermore gave much time to visiting and counseling in the homes of his parish.

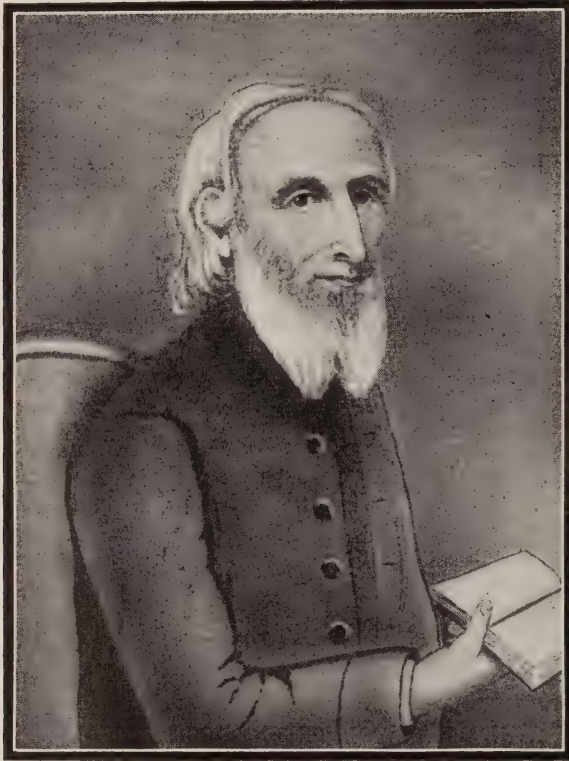
The influence exerted by him while at Tulpehocken was later reflected in scores of communities throughout other sections of Pennsylvania, in the Valley of Virginia, and in Ohio, as certain families migrated to those areas. He made such a tremendous spiritual impact upon certain families so that when one traces the travels of Newcomer and takes note of the hearts and homes open to Newcomer, one cannot but say to himself, "Here are the fruits of Otterbein's ministry in the Tulpehocken Valley." When we consider the names: Neidig, Shuey, Brown, Zeller, Dreisbach, Berger, and others, all of whom are first found in Berks County, we find evidence to substantiate the claim that Otterbein did more, in those two brief years for the future of the United Brethren in Christ Church, than any other man in a similar span of time.

Leaving the Tulpehocken Church in 1760, his regular pastoral services ceased in eastern Pennsylvania. While there is evidence that he visited east of the Susquehanna, he was not again to come into public view until the notable meeting at Isaac Long's.¹⁴

Martin Boehm

Jacob Boehm, father of Martin, was of Swiss Mennonite extraction. He landed at Philadelphia in the year 1715, tarried some time in Germantown, then settled in Conestoga (now Pequea) Township, on a three hundred and eighteen-acre tract located approximately six miles south of Lancaster City, (about one and one-half miles south of the present village of Willow Street). Later he purchased an additional tract of one hundred and two acres and one hundred and forty-four perches adjoining his original purchase on the southwest. These plantations were removed by but one from the earliest of the more remote inland settlements—that commonly known as the Pequea Settlement of the year 1710. The influence upon American history by the coming of the good ship, "Mayflower," to the shores of New England on December 21, 1620, is equalled in significance by the coming of the ship, "Maria Hope," to Philadelphia on September 23, 1710. The combined passenger and crew list on the Maria Hope numbered ninety-four persons. Among them was a small group in which our interest centers. Soon after arrival, their representative appeared before the Penn's property commissioners and obtained warrants for the survey of 10,500 acres of land, to be divided among, "Swissers lately arrived in this Province." By July 1711, patents for 5,500 acres plus six per cent additional for roads,

etc., had been issued. This formed the Pequea Settlement. This historic event was commemorated in the year 1910 by the Lancaster County Historical Society placing a marker at the entrance to the grounds of the "Brick," or Willow Street Mennonite Church. The tablet shows the land to be located on the Pequea Creek and crossed easterly and westerly by the old Philadelphia and Conestoga Road.



Martin Boehm

One of the most influential of the 1710 group was a man by the name of Martin Kendig, whose daughter, Barbara, Jacob Boehm subsequently married. It was he who on a return to the Palatinate induced Jacob Boehm and others to come to America. Also as a result of Kendig's visit to the Fatherland there were numerous additional arrivals during the years 1712-1717 and following, who settled near the original purchases. Looking over the land warrant-survey drafts of Lancaster County, we find the names of Swiss, German, and Huguenots in the majority in all of the townships except about half a dozen on the eastern and southern boundaries.

Martin Boehm,¹⁵ one of ten children to grow to maturity, was born November 30, 1725. He married Eve Steiner (or Stoner), in the

year 1753. She was born December 25, 1734. The newly married couple began their career on a one hundred and eighty-one-acre farm. It was a part of the three hundred and eighty-one acre tract patented to his father. Martin Boehm was possessor of at least three other tracts of farming land, all totalling a little more than four hundred acres. This shows him to have been a rather extensive landowner, and a man of affairs in the community.

In due course of time, Martin Boehm formally joined the Society of Mennonites, most likely the Byerland congregation. At the age of thirty-one he was chosen by lot as a minister of said Society. He first served as assistant to Bishop Jacob Hostetter, who came to America in 1712 and settled south of Lancaster, in Lancaster Township. Bishop Hostetter was spiritual shepherd to a number of congregations, including the one at Byerland, until his death in 1761. Martin Boehm in that year was advanced to the office of bishop, succeeding Bishop Hostetter.

The Byerland Meetinghouse, so named after the Byer family, of whom, Samuel was the grantor of the parcel of ground on which the first house of worship was erected about the year 1755, was located about two miles southwesterly from the Boehm plantations. That the Boehm family had connections with this congregation is authenticated in that, Jacob Boehm, an elder in the Mennonist Society was one of the grantees named in the transfer of said church lot.

The ministry of Martin Boehm in the Mennonite Society, however, according to both past and present practices was not limited to one congregation. The Herr congregation, met in the famous "Christian Herr House," erected in 1719. It was used as a dwelling, and, as a place of worship for one hundred and thirty years. It still stands, and is located about the same distance to the northeast from the Boehm farms as the Byerland house to the southwest. In these and in other meetinghouses, the voice of Martin Boehm was heard from 1758 to 1761, although for a time in more or less flagging and subdued tones. The inner urge—the workings of God's grace moved him to serious Bible study and travailing prayer. His personal state of soul and his public ministry were far from satisfactory to himself. He too, like Otterbein, began probing deeper. As a result, on an occasion while following the plow, God's answer came. That answer, according to Spayth's recital was a voice from Holy Writ: "I am come to seek and to save that which was lost." In a moment a stream of joy was poured over me. I praised the Lord, and left the field, and told my companion what joy I felt."¹⁶

This experience came sometime during the period, 1758-61. Precisely what year it occurred is irrelevant. The fact of it is the all important matter. Aside from the evidence of historical record, one can readily surmise the effect of Boehm's testimony from that time forward. The results upon Boehm's contemporaries were far-reaching, and highly contributory to the new awakening in many a family circle. It was Martin Boehm's launching out into hitherto unbeaten paths that opened up new highways upon which resounded

the tread of migrating men, women, and children, during the latter half of the eighteenth century. They were the descendants of those Swiss and German Mennonites who came to Lancaster County during the early decades of the same century.

Martin Boehm's ministry in the Mennonite Society was to these families and their children. He was one of them. He spoke their language, knew their domestic, social, and religious doctrines and practices. Of these settlers, those whose names enter very largely into the subsequent United Brethren History are: Bear, Funk, Erb, Herr, Hershey, Kreider, Landis, Light, Long, Kauffman, and Newcomer. As they migrated to Lebanon and Dauphin Counties; to the areas west of the Susquehanna, on into Ohio and Virginia, and to Canada; the influence of Boehm went with them.

As early as 1735, certain Swiss Mennonites bought land in the Valley of Virginia. Prominent United Brethren names among them were: Herr, Funk, Kauffman, Strickler, and Long. Even as early as 1733, Jacob Stover, a land agent, had patented to him 5,000 acres, known as the "Massanutten Patent." The land was located, on the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, in the present Page County. The present Lee highway crosses it, the city of Luray being on its eastern border. One historian notes the significance of this in a treatise under the title, "Massanutten Settled by the Pennsylvania Pilgrim, the first White Settlement in the Shenandoah Valley."¹⁷

The settling of Pennsylvania German migrants in the county of Page serves merely as an example of a more general migration. Others of the same stock and kin, during the eighteenth century, established residence in other counties comprising the Shenandoah Valley; i.e., Frederick, Shenandoah, Rockingham, and Augusta. Even today the similarity of family names within our conference boundary with those of the Virginia valleys is very striking. Newcomer, in the several accounts of his visits, mentions these: Beaver, Bender, Boehm, Forrey, Funkhouser, Herr, Heistand, Hershberger, Hess, Nieswander, Rhinehart, Stouffer, Strickler, Yeager, and Zimmerman.

We reach momentarily into a later period of United Brethren history, to mention in this connection that Newcomer visited this region in the year 1800, just eight days before the first annual conference went into session. On that occasion Martin Boehm and his son Henry were Newcomer's traveling companions. This particular itinerary took them as far south as Staunton. On the return northward they turned off the main valley road, went eastward and entered the Massanutten Valley at Keiseltown, continued northward the entire length of the valley, then crossed the mountain westward and emerged at New Market. In the vicinity of Strasburg, these traveling missionaries held a meeting at the home of a certain Mr. A. Boehm. Farther south in the same valley, Brother Strickler met them and took them to his house. During this stay a meeting was held and "father Boehm baptized young Daniel Strickler and his companion." Incidentally, it may be said that

Martin Boehm's sister, Mary, was married to Henry Strickler.

On the surface it might seem that this statement of events taking place in Virginia, is a digression from the objective of this volume. However, underneath there are several close connections of the evangelical movement in Virginia with the work in Eastern Pennsylvania. We can now clearly see the reason for Boehm being called to Virginia, in 1761, to give spiritual aid to its people. We can also now understand why a preacher from Virginia is present at the Isaac Long meeting, six years later. Furthermore, when we come to the era when organized work begins through the original conference, certain Virginians are appointed to circuits east of the Susquehanna; and others whose names appear on the conference roll are from the same State.

Having observed the background of Boehm's work as a participant in a new spiritual movement, we return now to give a more or less detailed account of his movements and ministry following his deliverance from the shackles which had held him bound. On the occasion of his visit to Virginia in 1761 he was joyfully received, and the successes he had greatly confirmed his own spiritual experiences, so that when he returned to his home community, he launched out with increased courage in proclaiming the gospel which redeems from sin unto salvation. He now adopted new measures to gain access to the hearts of the people. Like Otterbein he began to hold meetings "on week days, and some by candle light." He met with people in their homes and appointed meetings in houses to which people of the neighborhood were invited. He met with others of like mind in what were called, "Great Meetings." To these, people came in large numbers, not only from among the Mennonites but from other denominations. It was at one of these that Otterbein and Boehm met as we have noted.

After the Isaac Long meeting: "He early appears as preaching regularly at three places. He preached at Pequea (to the 'Pequea brethren' of his own neighborhood), at Landis Valley (to the 'Conestoga brethren' in the Long neighborhood), and at Donegal (to the 'River brethren' on the Susquehanna). For the meetings at his own place he fitted up the old house that had been built and occupied by his father. The congregations were all principally made up of Mennonites." ¹⁸

There are no available records to tell us of his work over a period of approximately thirty years. An estimate of the nature and extent of his spiritual ministry must be by inference, based on the knowledge of events prior to the year 1767 and following the recordings in Newcomer's Journal beginning with May 1796. However, from the land records we learn that he sold in the year 1783, to his sons, Jacob and John, all but one of the three farms held by him. This would indicate that he relieved himself of the responsibilities connected with extensive farming and gave more time to preaching.

In the year 1796, May 1, we find him at Abraham Troxel's two miles north of Lebanon. It was the occasion of a quarterly meeting held by Newcomer. Boehm preached the first sermon, on the text, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Similar references are made by Newcomer over the period from 1796 onward to 1810. Following are some of the places where he appeared and took part in the services during the period:

1. Pennsylvania

- a. Lancaster County: at Christopher's Grosh's, near Rancks Church; at Jacob Shelley's, two miles west of Lancaster; at Christian Hershey's, a mile northeast of Lancaster; at his own home, frequently.
- b. Lebanon County: at Abraham Troxel's; at Martin Kreider's, two miles southwest of Lebanon; at Nafzinger's, two miles northeast of Palmyra.
- c. Berks County: at Sinking Spring; at John Zeller's, near Mt. Aetna.
- d. Dauphin County: at John George Pfrimmer's, in Harrisburg; at Mercer's; at John Neidig's, near Oberlin.
- e. Cumberland County: at Shopp's near Shiremanstown; at Abraham Myer's, near Carlisle; at David Snyder's near Newville.
- f. Franklin County: at Leymeister's; at Rocky Springs.

2. Maryland

At Jacob Bowlus', near Middletown; at Otterbein's Church, Baltimore; at Bishop Asbury's, in the same city; at Hagerstown; at Christian Newcomer's, Beaver Creek.

3. Virginia

At numerous places during the journey of September 1800.

To Boehm came the distinction of frequently preaching the first discourse when a Sacramental, or three-day meeting was opened on a Saturday; to preach the first discourse on Sabbath morning; and to be one of two ministers to distribute the elements for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. He was held in great veneration by Newcomer, who often speaks of him as, "my worthy old brother," and who time and again comments thus: "Brother Boehm spoke with uncommon power." At a Sacramental meeting held at the Peace Church, "Friedens Kirche," near Shiremanstown, which opened on Saturday, November 9, 1799, "Brother Troxel spoke first, then brothers Boehm and Geeting, with grace and power . . . (On Sunday) a vast concourse of people were assembled; Br. Geeting delivered the first discourse, Neidig followed him; on the Sacramental occasion, Brs. Boehm and Geeting distributed the emblems of wine and bread, it was truly a blessed time."

These and other facts recorded by Newcomer reveal Boehm's ministry was very extended in area, and very acceptable and effective. They also leave the impression that he was considered the

chief among them. While these recordings cover only about the last third of his ministry, we can be assured that they are indicative of the early and middle period of his ministerial career. His son, Rev. Henry Boehm,¹⁹ writing of his own work among the German people of Germantown, Pa., in his efforts to establish the Methodist Church there in the year 1803, relates that his father had preached there many years before and that the people were pleased with him. Writing in general terms about his father's preaching, Rev. Henry Boehm says: "He preached with great life, power, and success, and had many seals to his ministry."

It is not within the scope of this volume to enter upon an extended discussion of Martin Boehm's connection with the Methodists. That in the later years of his life his name appeared on the roll of the local class meeting at Boehm's Chapel, is conceded. It is also a fact that he had some part in the movement to erect this Chapel.

The Chapel forty feet by thirty-two feet, built of limestone, stands about three hundred feet south of the present Boehm's Methodist Church, which is located along the highway route no. 72. Henry Boehm writing concerning the Chapel, mentions: "My brother Jacob gave the land for the house (Chapel) and the burying ground. It was called 'Boehm's Chapel' because it was built upon Boehm's land in Boehm's neighborhood, and because the different families of Boehm's did much toward its erection, and were regular attendants."

An examination of the several deeds for transfer of land of which the church lot was a parcel shows that it was a parcel of the twenty-one acres sold by Jacob Stoner to Martin Boehm on June 8, 1765. On June 21, 1783, Martin Boehm transferred the twenty-one acres, with two other tracts to his son Jacob, who in turn sold this piece of ground to Christian Herr of Manor Township on December 3, 1791, and on the day immediately following, Christian Herr sold one hundred and fifty perches of the twenty-one acre tract to the trustees for the Chapel. The language stating the purpose for use of said ground is as follows: "In trust to and for the use of the Religious Society of Protestants in and near the said Township of Conestoga called Methodists, for the purpose of erecting Churches, Meeting Houses and Houses of Religious Worship and School Houses and burying ground for the said religious society called Methodists."

The trustees in order named were: Martin Boehm, and Jacob Boehm of Conestoga Township; Abraham Keagy, John Miller, Simon Miller and John Hart of Martic Township; Frederick Rathvone of Strasburg Township; and Joseph Buckwalter and Benjamin Souter of Lampeter Township. The sale price was five pounds.²⁰

Furthermore, he was a great friend of Bishop Asbury. The bishop was always thrilled by the presence of the elder Boehm. Finally, it can be said he was often found preaching in Methodist meetings. But on the contrary, none of these contacts, connections and interests, other than the appearance of his name on the local Methodist class roll prove him to have official Methodist connections. In that



Boehm's Chapel



Christopher Grosh House

period relations between Methodists and United Brethren were very friendly. Henry Boehm tells of these relations.²¹ The time is during the year 1803-04, when Henry Boehm and Jacob Gruber traveled the Dauphin Circuit, the language is as follows:

We held what were called union, or friendly meetings, where the Methodists and the United Brethren in Christ met in harmony, and the ministers took turns in preaching. These meetings were of great interest to the Methodists. It gave them access to many they could not otherwise have reached. We held one of these meetings in Columbia in August. Multitudes were present. James Thomas preached the first sermon, then my father preached in German, then I preached in English. Thus we had three sermons in the forenoon without intermission. In the afternoon three of the United Brethren held forth: Smith, Hershey and Shaefer.²²

(1869) Martin Boehm was present at the 1789 conference held at Otterbein's parsonage in Baltimore, and the 1791 conference held at Spangler's. At the organization conference of the year 1800, Otterbein and Boehm were selected overseers or bishops. He continued to serve in that capacity during all of his remaining years. He was present at the annual sessions from 1800 to 1810, excepting the years 1806 and 1808. He presided over sessions of 1804, 1807, and 1809. Naturally, in his later years physical strength was on the wane. This no doubt accounts for his absence from the sessions, 1806, 1808, and 1810. At the time of the latter he was then past four score years of age. Likewise, advanced age, most likely, prevented attendance at the conference of 1811. Before the time for the 1812 session rolled around, Father Boehm was no more. On the seventeenth of March, 1812, he became ill, and six days after, on the twenty-third, the earthly career of this worthy servant of God came to an end. His body was laid to rest on the twenty-fifth, in the Boehm's Chapel burying ground. Who performed the funeral rites none now can say. Christian Newcomer at the time was visiting a Methodist Annual Conference at Leesburg, Virginia. The word of Boehm's death did not reach him until April second. Rev. Henry Boehm and Bishop Asbury were also in attendance at the Leesburg Conference. When

the session had closed, Bishop Asbury gave direction to Henry Boehm to make preparation to go on a journey to Father Boehm's, saying he felt that not all was well with the elder Boehm. They set out on the journey and when they reached Samuel Binkley's house, about a mile from the Boehm's old homestead the, "mystery was solved, there we heard my father was dead."

The mourning friends once more gathered in the Chapel on Sunday the fifth of April and Bishop Asbury preached a sermon on the text, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile." The sorrowing widow lived until the year 1822. Newcomer visited her on the seventeenth of September of that year. He records in his Journal: "I visited old sister Martin Boehm, a matron of 88 years; she was greatly rejoiced to see me." A little more than two months later, on November sixteenth, she too passed on.

A suitable memorial of granite commemorating the labors of this pious couple was erected at the spot of their interment, largely through the energies of Dr. S. S. Hough. United Brethren and Methodists joined in making this monument possible and in the signal honor given. Dedicatory exercises were held on the cemetery on the afternoon of May 18, 1929, in connection with the General Conference held in the Covenant Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



Boehm Monument

Bishop Fout spoke for the United Brethren and bishop Richardson for the Methodists. At the forenoon session of the conference on the same day, Major J. S. Boehm of Toronto and Mrs. Colin W. Campbell of Winnipeg, Canada, both great-great-grandchildren of Martin Boehm and wife made brief addresses, paying high tribute to their noble forbears.

The contribution of Father Boehm to the evangelical movement

in general and to the United Brethren in Christ Church in particular cannot be overstated. His breaking away from established order and precedent, his overwhelming power over the gainsayer, his evangelical passion and resolute persuasiveness, stamp him as a man of exceptional moral purpose and extraordinary spiritual gifts. The spiritual reformation he wrought was nothing short of revolutionary in character.

His physical characteristics are given by Dr. Drury: "He is described as being a short, stout man, with a vigorous constitution, an intellectual countenance, and a fine flowing beard, which gave him, in his later years, a patriarchal appearance."²³ This impression may have been made by the portrait used in this volume. Concerning it, Rev. Henry Boehm after visiting our Publishing House in 1856, wrote the following:

When I entered their building and looked upon the wall I saw a portrait of my father. I had not seen it for fifty years, nor did I know that it had been preserved, or that there was an image of him in existence. There he was with his German visage, his gray locks and venerable beard. It was a very good likeness, painted by a German artist for my nephew, Martin Boehm, who carried it west with him when he went to Ohio. At his death, it was presented to the United Brethren in Christ, who were glad to get such a likeness to adorn the walls of their publishing house.²⁴

George Adam Geeting

The Reverend George Adam Geeting performed a unique service for the United Brethren cause in eastern Pennsylvania. Inasmuch as Otterbein's ministry no longer extended into eastern Pennsylvania, the question arises; what further influence was in operation among the Reformed element in our area? The answer is; that influence came through Geeting. He may be said to have held the position of an intermediary between the Reformed and the Mennonite elements. A recital of the manner in which he became a leader in the spiritual movement and the work he did for it will make clear why such a position is claimed for him.

Geeting was born February 6, 1741, near the birthplace of Otterbein. Having come to America in his eighteenth year, he soon thereafter permanently settled near Keedysville, Maryland. There he came under the influence of Otterbein's preaching. He was ordained a minister in the Reformed Church; first by Otterbein and William Hendel in the year 1783; and in the year 1788, more formally by direction of the Coetus. He was not present at the Synod sessions after 1797. The Synod of 1804 expelled him. "His offence was the same as Mr. Otterbein's—not greater, nor different." He was present at the conferences held in the years 1789 and 1791; and at all the annual conferences from 1800 onward to the time of his death, excepting the year 1804. He served as secretary of the conference during those years, and presided over four annual sessions in the

OUR PIONEERS



Congregation Assembled at Geeting Monound, Geeting Meeting-house Cemetery, Near Keedysville, Maryland, Sesqui-Centennial Celebration, 1939, Pennsylvania Annual Conference



Present at the Celebration
(Standing in the Foreground, Left to Right)
Phares B. Gible, Charles W. Brewbaker, Paul E. Holdcraft
F. Berry Plummer, J. Balmer Showers

absence of both Otterbein and Boehm. A little more than two months after the last session he attended, he died, on June 28, 1812.

The following extracts from Newcomer's Journal tell of his visits to our area.

1796, April 26th—This day I came in company with Bro. George Geeting to what is called Berner's Church, but we were not permitted to preach therein; so Bro. Geeting spoke in the graveyard adjoining the church, to a numerous congregation with remarkable power. April 27th—We had a meeting at a place called the Black Ridge Church; here we were also refused to preach in the church, and brother Geeting spoke in the School House adjoining. April 29th—was our appointment at a church called Pibob's.²⁵

1797, Oct. 8th (Sunday)—This day the church in this place (Schaefferstown), is to be dedicated to God; may the Lord assist to perform the task in a manner acceptable in his sight. This afternoon, the Rev. Mr. Wagner delivered the first sermon; in the afternoon, brother Geeting preached with great blessing; by candle light, the Rev. Mr. Hendel delivered a handsome discourse. 9th—The Rev. Mr. Rahausser preached in the forenoon; in the afternoon, the Revs. Lochman and Williams; in the evening I preached from Hebrews 2, v. 3.

1798, June 11th—Rode to Harrisburg, Br. Geeting preached here in the German Reformed Church.

1799, Nov. 11th—Came to Harrisburg and Bro. Geeting preached in the German Church with great liberty. 13th—This day Br. Geeting preached in the German Reformed Church in Johnstown. 14th—This forenoon Br. Geeting preached in Lebanon, in the Church. 16th—This morning we rode to Schaefferstown, preached in the Church. 21st—Rode in the afternoon to Manheim, where I met with Br. Geeting; he preached in the church with a feeling and tender heart.

1800, Oct. 9th—This day Br. Geeting preached in Lebanon, in the German Reformed Church.

1808, Aug. 22nd—Preached this forenoon at Felix Lichte's, near Lebanon; at night Br. Geeting preached in the German Reformed Church in Shanzentown.

Here are listed nine churches of which seven were open to Geeting's ministry. Both Lutheran and Reformed used five of these nine churches.²⁶ Such was a customary arrangement during those years and which continues in some instances to the present. Newcomer speaks of them as German Reformed Churches, the reason probably being that an arrangement to use said churches was made with the Reformed brethren. This ministry was exercised both before and after Geeting was expelled by the Synod. The resolution voted on for his expulsion carried by a vote of 20 for and 17 against. Both the vote by the clergy and the permission granted by some to

preach in their churches present evidence that there was not the complete alienation, as the opinion of some is, between members of the Reformed Church and those who came out from among them to join the United Brethren. One must ever bear in mind the prevailing attitude of the times of two distinct types of religious groups. Between the "Gemeinde" or Society groups and the "Kirche" or established church groups there was an estrangement, if not to say, in many quarters, an absolute abhorrence. The marvel therefore is not that these zealous evangelists were barred by some; it is rather, that they were admitted by any.

However, the fact to be emphasized in this connection is, that it was Geeting who opened the way for continued influence of the United Ministers among the Reformed constituency. By accompanying Geeting on these occasions, Newcomer, until then for the most part a stranger and outsider so far as the Reformed were concerned, received a kind of credential for his ministry among them. Even though Newcomer had a way of finding his way to the hearts of the people, regardless of denominational affiliation or background, nevertheless, this introduction to Reformed audiences was a tremendous advantage to him.

Christian Newcomer

The place which Christian Newcomer held in the revival movement and the service he performed for the United Brethren in Christ are more familiarly known than those of his contemporaries. We of eastern Pennsylvania as well as of all other areas are indebted to him not only for his ministry but also for the written record he left to posterity. He was beyond all doubt one of the most cosmopolitan churchmen who ever lived. Considering the time in which he lived, few could match him in the extensiveness of his travels. His public and personal ministry continued unabated for a period of more than forty years.

The record known as "Newcomer's Journal" is of such great value that some description of it is quite in order. It has been widely used as a sourcebook on early United Brethren history. It covers a period of more than thirty-four years, the first entry being under date of October 27, 1795, and the last, March 4, 1830. Rev. John Hildt tells of its origin and translation in the following words: "The Life of Christian Newcomer," (18 pages), prefixed to the Journal was written by himself, in the German language, during the last year of his existence on earth. His Journal (313 pages) was also written by himself in the same language, and embraces a period of thirty-five years. A short time before his departure, the translator paid a visit at his house; found him weak and feeble. During the short time which other avocations allowed him to spend with his old friend, he assisted CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER in collating the manuscript of his Journal; read the part denominated his life, which his old friend had lately written and on examination candidly stated to him that in his opinion it could not be put to press without first

undergoing a revision, and being transcribed into more legible characters. This opinion will appear obvious to the most impartial observer. The original manuscript was written by Christian Newcomer, almost day by day, in any or all situations in which he happened to be placed; frequently with bad ink, which in some parts of the manuscript had faded by age and was nearly illegible; frequently with a bad pen, and many other causes which contribute to an imperious necessity to revise and transcribe the manuscript in the same language in which it was originally written.

After the death of Christian Newcomer, a committee was appointed by the Conference of the United Brethren in Christ, to examine the manuscript and report thereon. After performing this duty, the committee reported unanimously in favor of a publication; accordingly the subscriber to this preface (Rev. Hildt) was appointed by his Brethren for divers reasons which need not be mentioned, to undertake the execution of transcribing and translating the manuscript into the English language. . . . He is perfectly aware, that many orthographical and even grammatical errors will be found in these pages, which his kind friends and a generous public are solicited to attribute to the want of perfect knowledge of the English language, and the difficulties of all translations, where not only the subject matter but the literal sense is aimed at.

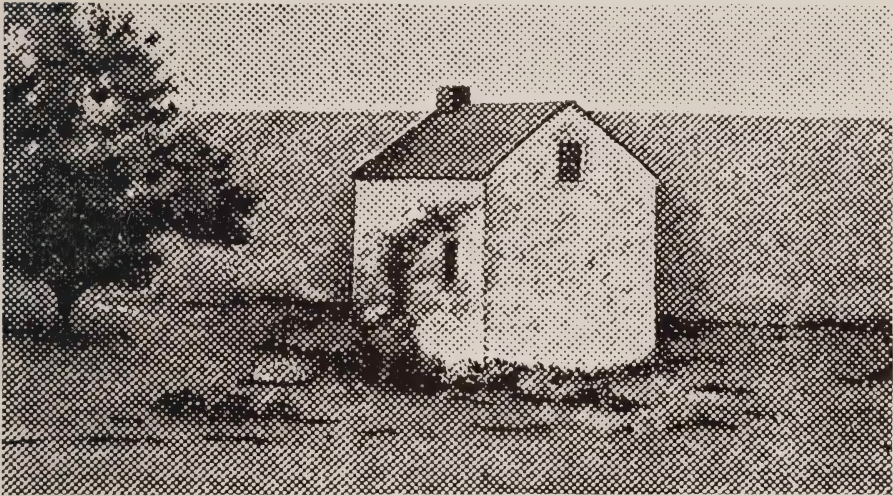
Dr. S. S. Hough passed on to the author a small mimeographed volume, under the title, "Abstracts from the Journal of Bishop Christian Newcomer," of biographical and historical notes by Nanie H. Betts, Belman, N. J. The author states that Newcomer mentioned over two thousand names. Dr. Hough in his book "Christian Newcomer, His Life, Journal and Achievement," informs us that Dr. Gaius Brumbaugh, editor for the National Geographical Society, "reported that he had taken photostatic copies of the pages of Newcomer's Journal and produced an index of the same, and that a copy of each has been placed in the Rare Book Section of the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C., for research purposes."²⁷

Bishop Christian Newcomer was a native son of Eastern Pennsylvania. His grandfather, Peter Newcomer, came to Pennsylvania in about the year 1717.²⁸ He located on a tract of land in Leacock Township (now Upper Leacock Township), about a mile and a half south of the village of Bareville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Peter Newcomer, a few weeks before his death, in the year 1732, bequeathed the same tract to his "middle son," Wolfgang Newcomer. He married a Miss Baer who after about a year died. The second marriage was to Elizabeth Weber (Weaver). Eight children were born to this union, of whom Christian was the second eldest of three sons.

On this plantation of three hundred acres Christian Newcomer was born, January 21 (February 1, N. S.), 1749. In one of the legal documents in Lancaster mention is made of a "small stone house,"

which stood on the premises. It was still used as a residence forty-four years after Christian's birth, and remained standing until the beginning of the present century.²⁹ There is every reason to believe that we have before us in the accompanying cut, the house in which Newcomer was born. This hallowed spot deserves recognition as one of the sacred shrines of United Brethrenism. It was a hallowed spot to Newcomer. In after years he frequently referred to it with tender emotions. Under date of October 18, 1803, he wrote:

I visited several of my old acquaintances, was also at the house where I was naturally, as well as, spiritually born, where God in his infinite mercy for Christ's sake pardoned my sins. O! the amazing love which is in Jesus. Twenty-nine years have passed away, and still the time, the place, yea, the very spot where it happened is perfectly remembered.



House in Which Christian Newcomer Was Born

The soul-experience alluded to in the quotation is but one of several spiritual crises in his life. Even as a youth, according to his own testimony, he reflected deeply upon such thoughts as more mature minds rarely grapple with. Twice he sought help from the elders of the Mennonite Society to which his parents and grandparents belonged. After the first of these occasions he was baptized and united with the same Society. But his famished soul remained without a satisfying answer to its cry. With another, he might have exclaimed: "O! for an interpreter." The second of these experiences came in the year 1774 and, as he appraised it years after, marked the time and circumstance of his spiritual birth.

By that time he was married and had set up housekeeping on the family homestead. His father became ill in the year 1771. He requested that his son Christian, who was away from home at the

time employed as a carpenter, come to his bedside. His father desired him to take over the plantation. He relates the circumstances of the interview, and his subsequent decisions as follows:

As I had no manner of intention to settle myself or commence housekeeping, this proposition of my father did not meet with my approbation; therefore, I meekly but peremptorily declined to accede to the proposal, and advised him to sell the place. But my mother and sisters entreated with tears in their eyes, that I should be obedient to the will of the father, and suffer him to act in this matter as seemed best unto him; so their tears and entreaties carried the day, and against my inclination I submitted to the will of my parents. My father grew worse every day, made his last will and testament, and in a short time thereafter expired.³⁰ Henceforth I began a new career, before this time the concerns of the world or the care of sustenance had troubled my mind very little; but now I had a family to provide for. My mother and sister remained with me about a year, when the latter got married; and on account of the occupation of my mother, being a midwife, she was frequently absent from home, therefore I had to seek a housekeeper, which I found in Miss Elizabeth Bear, and entered with her in a state of matrimony on the 31st of March, 1770.³¹

With the lifting of the burden of doubt and fear in the winter of 1773-1774, came the urge to tell to others in public meeting what God had wrought in his soul. For the time being he could not persuade himself to follow these promptings, even though encouraged by his friends and neighbors to do so. He writes: "I continued to resist solicitations and entreaties, until ultimately like Jonah, I sought safety in flight, by selling my plantation and removing from my neighbors, into the State of Maryland." Accordingly, he sold the old homestead March 16, 1775, and moved to the vicinity of Beaver Creek, about seven miles southerly from Hagerstown, Maryland.

In his new abode, God suffered him not to retain peace of mind. Again his soul was enveloped with darkness and despair. Once more he strove with all the energy of his being to be free. He found the assurance he sought, and finally gained courage and spiritual direction to declare publicly the experiences through which he had passed. It seemed providential now that he should locate in a neighborhood where Otterbein and Geeting then frequently preached. Their doctrines greatly strengthened him. He soon discovered that the tenets they preached and the personal experiences they related were in harmony with his own views and experiences. Having accepted opportunities to preach at appointments made for him, both near at home and at distant points, he took up the role of a preacher of the blessed Gospel of Christ. In that capacity he became associated with Otterbein and Geeting and others of like mind and purpose.



Newcomer Monument, Beaver Creek Church Cemetery

The time when this public ministry began is fixed by Dr. Drury as of the year 1777. If that be the case, then nineteen years of his ministry had passed before he began making a daily record of his labors. Excepting the first year, 1795, and the last year, 1830, in which years he appears not to have crossed the Susquehanna to our district, he missed only four years, namely; 1798, 1820, 1823, and 1826, during which he did not visit eastern Pennsylvania. Of the thirty years in which he came here, there were eighteen years in which he made one trip, ten years in which he made two trips, and one year in which he made three trips—a total of forty-two to the soil of our present conference bounds. For the year 1797 he has an item of some service rendered on each day beginning with May 1 and ending with June 12. The separate entries, do not in each case, but in the majority of cases, represent preaching appointments. For the entire period there are approximately 550 private and public contacts on record. Considering the fact that the Journal covers about three-fifths of the entire period of his public service, and that he was just as active in the earlier period of unrecorded service, he most likely made as many as seventy trips, and had as many as one thousand opportunities for spiritual service.

Notes

1. For data on the Long family, see page 58.
2. The years fixed by Dr. Drury are 1766-68, 1767 is the date now generally accepted.
3. Thomas Carlyle—*Essay on History*.
4. Ralph W. Emerson—*Essay on History*.
5. Lancaster County as constituted in 1729, embraced all the territory, within the present limits of: Lancaster, Dauphin and Lebanon Counties, and, included also part of Berks. The first area east of the Susquehanna River to be set off was that which became a part of Berks, in 1752. Dauphin including Lebanon was erected out of Lancaster, in 1785, and, Lebanon in turn was erected out of Dauphin. Both the first and second parishes served by Otterbein were in original Lancaster County.

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

6. Ellis & Evans—*History of Lancaster County*, p. 361.
7. Ibid, p. 452.
8. Frederick George Livingood—*Reformed Church Schools*, a publication of the Pennsylvania German Society, 1930.
9. Ellis and Evans—*History of Lancaster County*, p. 452.
10. Spayth—*History of the United Brethren Church*, p. 22.
11. Lawrence—*History of the United Brethren Church*, p. 137.
12. Drury—*Life of Otterbein*, p. 68, 1884.
13. Spayth—p. 24.
14. See Drury's *Life of Otterbein*, pps. 90-91, and 109.
15. Concerning the life of Martin Boehm, there appear some discrepancies in the written account by the several historians. According to Drury (p. 97), Boehm was selected by lot to be minister in the Mennonite Society in 1756; while Spayth (p. 31) states that this event took place in 1758. Martin C. Weaver, in his history, *Mennonites of Lancaster Conference* (p. 103), gives the year 1758. According to Weaver, he was ordained a Bishop in the year 1761, whereas Drury (p. 207) says this took place in 1759.
16. Spayth, p. 30.
17. Harry M. Strickler of Luray wrote the treatise in 1924, being an attorney and historian, and at one time mayor of Luray, Virginia.
18. Drury, p. 103.
19. Henry Boehm was born June 8, 1775. He lived to the great age of one hundred years, six months, and twenty days. He was converted in the year 1798 in a great revival held in Boehm's Chapel. Soon thereafter he was appointed leader of a class at Soudersburg. In the year 1800 he entered the itinerant ministry of the Methodist Church. In the early days of his public ministry he served circuits on the eastern shore of Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Eastern Pennsylvania. With the assistance of Dr. Römer of Middletown, Pennsylvania, he translated the Methodist Discipline into the German language in the year 1807 for the use of the German speaking people of that denomination and with a view of union of the Methodists and United Brethren. He traveled extensively as an aide to Bishop Asbury. During this early period he was frequently in company with his father in public worship. (as for example, as recited before, on the trip to Virginia in the year 1800). In his centennial year he preached in a Methodist Church in New York City, on which occasion he was highly honored by his brethren. A few months later an illustrious son of an illustrious father went to join the immortals. He had written a volume based upon a day by day account of his work which was edited by the Rev. J. B. Wakely, D.D., and published by Nelson and Phillips of Cincinnati, Ohio, 1875 under the title; "Reminiscences, Historical and Biographical, of Rev. Henry Boehm."
20. A few facts concerning these trustees may be of some interest. Whether the Martin Boehm here mentioned was the Rev. Martin, we cannot say. The Rev. Henry Boehm mentions in his writings a Martin Boehm who was his nephew. Jacob Boehm could have been either his brother or his nephew. Abraham Keagy was the husband of Barbara Boehm, daughter of the Rev. Martin. The Millers, according to Henry Boehm, were residents of Strasburg, Simon being a local preacher among the Methodists. Benjamin Souter (Souder) was also a local Methodist preacher. He with Jacob Souder were proprietors of the land on which the village of Soudersburg along the Philadelphia road is located. In this place The Philadelphia Methodist Conference met in the year 1804 in a house of worship erected two years before.
21. Reminiscences, p. 106 ff.
22. Of Smith and Hershey something will be said later. The only person who could be referred to as "Shaefer" at the time was Rev. Frederick Shaffer who was originally a member of the Reformed Church, was converted during Otterbein's labors at Lancaster, and was later a preacher for the United Brethren. He was one of three men to be ordained by Otterbein about six weeks before Otterbein's death, and supply preacher for the Baltimore congregation, for a time, after Otterbein's death. He died in 1814.
23. Drury, p. 97.
24. Reminiscences, p. 488.
25. These six quotations from JN, pp. 21, 32, 41, 63-64, 75, 168.
26. The location of the Schaefferstown, Harrisburg, Lebanon, and Manheim churches is well known. Pibob's and Shanzentown churches have not been identified. A study of the full text of the Journal, and consideration of the difficulties of translation, leads to the conclusion that Johnstown is meant for Jonestown, Berner's for Bern's, and Black Ridge for Blue Mountain. The Bern Church may have been the "Bern Church" in the western part of Bern Township, Berk's County, or the "Bernville or Northkill Church" in western Penn Township. The route of travel taken by Geeting and Newcomer favors the church at Bernville as being the one from which they were barred. "Blue Mountain or Zion's" is located at the eastern end of the village of Strausstown, Berks County.

OUR PIONEERS

27. The place-names mentioned also run into the thousands. Being fairly well acquainted with the geographical area in the eastern counties over which Newcomer traveled, by consulting county atlases, county and locally published records, county courthouse records, census of 1790, and Pennsylvania State Land Office records, the author has been able in many instances to determine locations of places, and of persons mentioned in the Journal. Numerous references to the Journal have been made in preceding pages and will continue to be made in succeeding pages. It is there apparent to what extent we are indebted to Bishop Christian Newcomer for his inestimable record.
28. See naturalization list of those persons who arrived in Lancaster County prior to 1718, in Statutes at Large, Vol. iv, p. 147. The will of Peter Newcomer (Newcomat) Book, A-1, p. 10, made January 29, 1732; probated, February 23, 1732, is one of the earliest on record in the Register of Wills Office, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
29. The photograph from which the accompanying cut was made, was taken from the east. Reference to the small stone house is made in the will of Martin Bear who bought the farm from Christian Newcomer. Mr. Bear made the following provision; "I bequeath to my wife Fraeny, the small stone house I now live in, with the fence around it . . . and the meadow at the foot of the hill." Mr. Bear made the will November 18, 1792.
30. Wolfgang Newcomer's will was drawn up March 4, 1771, probated March 18, 1771, Book C-1 p. 20. The property was not immediately transferred to the son Christian. The heirs of Wolfgang Newcomer signed a release transferring the property to Christian when he was about to sell it to Bear in 1775. The will mentions the following children: Henry, Christian, Barbara, Peter, Elizabeth, Magdalena, and Anna.
31. There is a conflict of dates concerning the time when Christian Newcomer married. The "Life of Christian Newcomer," prefixed to the text of Journal, page 6, recites that he was married on March 31, 1770, while the text of the Journal 153 fixes it, March 31, 1772. The latter is shown to be the correct year, for the reason that at the time, 1771, when the father, Wolfgang died, the son Christian was not yet married.

Chapter III

CONTEMPORARIES AND IMMEDIATE SUCCESSORS OF THE PIONEERS

"Reformers whose names are ever dear unto us"

The evangelical preaching of our pioneers resulted in many converts. Numerous of these converts naturally joined their fellowship. Some of them were previously non-professors; others were of Mennonite, Amish, Reformed, Moravian, or other denominational adherence. By far the greater number were of Mennonite lineage.

The quotation at the head of this chapter is from a quarterly conference record of the Salem Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Several years after 1845 when the new Salem Church edifice had been erected someone wrote a brief account of the: *"Origin and Rise of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ at Lebanon and Vicinity."* A fuller statement embodying this quotation is as follows:

It is generally known that we as a Society are mostly an Order. From fifty to sixty years ago when darkness covered the earth and gross darkness the minds of the people of this sect as well as of many others.

It pleased the Lord, in the order of his Providence, to bless the people of this place by the ministry of a few evangelical reformers whose names are ever dear unto us. Such were Boehm, Grosch, J. Neidig, A. Troxel, M. Kreider, and H. Landis. Soon after followed Zentmeir, Ellenberger; and our worthy father Felix Light, whose ministerial labors extended up to as late as 1842. All these men of God were of the Mennonite Order and Mennonite Reformers except father Troxel.¹

But these worthy fathers were not without opposition, especially when they preached the unadulterated Word of God and spiritual life to their brethren (Mennonists) for they rejected their counsel, misconstrued the Word to the dead letter and ceremony, despised their holy zeal, and pronounced it, Ein Ehrgeist und übertreibenheit, (a spirit of self-esteem and excessiveness), until these reformers, impartially and without attachment to any denomination, except fathers M. Boehm, A. Troxel, and J. Neidig who soon became members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

But as Boehm soon died, Troxel migrated to the West, and Neidig lived from twenty to twenty-five miles distant, we were left without Brethren who were regular Conference members at that time—we nevertheless, joined heart and hand in the glorious work of reformation though without particu-

lar attachment to any Sect or Order. Various were the names which they (the reformers) bore among the people, viz.: Boehm's, Landis' or Troxel's People; by others, the United Brethren, Die Allgemeinen, Die Lichte's Leute, und by anderen, Die unpartheischen Minnisten, (the Universal, the Light's People, and by others, the unsectarian or impartial Mennonites.)

This statement, in addition to naming some of the participants in the spiritual movement, brings to light certain aspects of it, namely; the time element, the spiritual dearth of the times, the zeal of the evangelists, the opposition they encountered, and the attitude toward a strict church order. While this information comes from a local church record and bears the marks of a local situation, it sets forth accurately a general situation. All of the points there touched upon will receive more or less indirect treatment as we follow the careers of the men who were leaders in the movemnt.

0.1749
 ✕ **Christopher Grosh** was the only leader in the United Brethren movement to have Moravian background. He made certain distinct contributions to the evangelical movement. The intimacy which existed between him and Christian Newcomer probably caused Newcomer to visit Moravian headquarters both at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Lititz. The name of "Christopher Grosch" appears as one of the United Brethren Ministers from 1789 onward to his death. His home was open to the early itinerant preachers. A large upper room in the spacious stone house on his plantation of 165 acres located one and one-half miles east of New Holland, East Earl Township, Lancaster County was set apart for public worship. In this house, still standing today, he resided until his death, April 16, 1829, at the age of eighty years, three months, and four days.

He was the father of three sons and six daughters. A daughter, Barbara, married Christian Haag. Another daughter, Susanna, married Daniel Weidman, son of Rev. Joseph Weidman of Berks County. The Daniel Weidman family became owner of the Grosh farm after the father's death and continued the practice of holding divine worship in the home. Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Weidman, married John Ranck. Their grandson, the Reverend George S. Ranck is the father of the Reverends Ezra H. Ranck and J. Allan Ranck, members of the conference. Walter Martin now owns that part of the Grosh home on which the buildings are located; Samuel Hahn is owner of the part on which the old cemetery was located.

The Rev. Grosh exercised great influence upon his contemporaries and in many respects was the superior of most of them. He, together with Martin Boehm, was authorized by the annual conference of 1803 to supervise the work of the ministers in Pennsylvania. His ability to expound the Word made him a favorite preacher at Great Meetings. He preached on such occasions in Maryland, in Cumberland County, and in his native county of Lancaster. One such was held at his homestead, May 14-16, 1803. He was one of the first to recognize the need for a better church order. To this end he col-

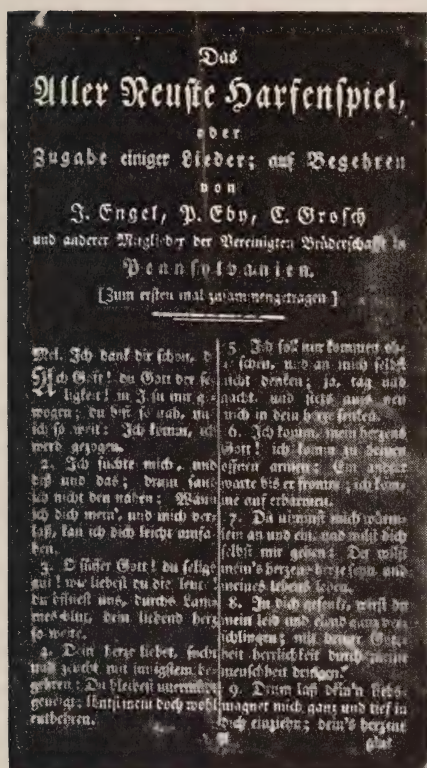
✕ for information on the ³¹Grosh family see -
 a. R. Beck's, 'The Moravian Graveyards of Lititz, Pa. 1744-1905,' art. in The Moravian Historical Society Transactions of, VII, 1905, pp. 215-32; especially pp. 231, 240

Original Manuscript
Confession of Faith and Rules of Order
(First, Second, and Last Pages)
Signatories: "Christophel Grosch and Christian Neukommer"

laborated with Newcomer in formulating the denomination's first statement of Articles on Faith and Order. The manuscript bearing their signatures is still preserved, lodging in the archives of the Publishing House at Dayton, Ohio. In the absence of a bishop he presided at two of the early sessions of annual conference, i.e.; the one held May 23-25, 1811 at Joseph Knegi's, Cumberland County, and the session held May 5-7, 1813 at Christian Herr's in Lancaster County.

The name of "Grosch" is connected with one other literary production. Solomon Meyer, printer, of Ephrata, Pennsylvania, in 1795, printed a Psalter, such as was commonly used in public and private worship in the period. The title page of the supplement to the main text is as follows: "Das aller Neuste Harfenspiel, oder zugabe einigen Lieder, auf Begehren von J. Engle, P. Eby, C. Grosch, und anderer Mitglieder der Vereinigten Bruderschaft, in Pennsylvanien." While the contribution made by Grosh to this collection may have little import, the association with him of the two other men named, and the use of the designation, "Vereinigten Bruderschaft" have major significance. To make clear the implication, it must be said that J. Engle was Jacob Engle, recognized as among the foremost of those who founded the River Brethren Church (now Brethren in Christ); and that P. Eby was a certain Peter Eby, who associated with the United Brethren.

The association of Engle's name with that of Christopher Grosh bears out the claim that the United Brethren group had intimate



Translation of:
Title Page of Supplement
to the Psalter

The
Very Latest Harfenspiet

or
Supplement of Several Hymns:

By Request of
J. Engel, P. Eby, and C. Grosch
and Other Members of the
United Brotherhood in
Pennsylvania
(Collected for the First Time)

fellowship with the group which were known as the River Brethren. It serves to throw light on Drury's mention of the, "River brethren," as previously cited.² The use of the term, "Vereinigten Bruderschaft," is worthwhile pondering. Its use is definitely not that of a technical name for a denomination, but that of a descriptive term of an existing fellowship. It was a fellowship of mutual worship and shared-experience common to Grosh, Boehm, Otterbein, Asbury, Albright, and Engle. However, as time went on and differing positions on doctrine and practice were taken, Grosh played a leading role in charting the course for the United Brethren in Christ.

Martin Shuey. The relation of the Shuey family to United Brethrenism forms an extremely interesting episode, which illustrates perfectly a statement previously made in the section dealing with Otterbein's ministry at Tulpehocken, showing his influence upon certain families of that region, and the spread of the movement as they migrated to other areas. Martin Shuey, the elder, was definitely associated with our pioneers. The first appointment Newcomer had on coming to the valley of the Little Swatara Creek was at the home of Martin Shuey. It was on April 22, 1796. Six days later, he preached there a second time; in June of the following year, a third

time. Though the name of Martin Shuey is not listed among the United Ministers, he was most likely recognized as one of the leaders in the movement. Newcomer states that when he arrived at the Isaac Long home, June 1, 1799, to attend a Sacramental Meeting, he found there: Brs. Boehm, Fremmer, Neidig, Grosh, Kreider, and Shuey.

He is once referred to as, "old Martin Shuey," to distinguish between him and a younger man by the same name. Martin Shuey, the elder, was uncle to Martin Shuey, the younger. The elder Martin Shuey died in November of the year 1801. He was one of five sons of the immigrant ancestor, Daniel Shuey, of the family which claims our attention. Daniel Shuey came to America in 1732 and settled in that part of Bethel Township which fell into Lebanon County (then Lancaster County) when the Lancaster-Berks line was established in 1752, although he also came into possession of land located east of that line. One of these tracts, a farm of 236 acres, located a few miles from the Andrew Zeller home, became the property of son Martin in 1761. Daniel Shuey Jr., brother of Martin, the elder, moved from Berks County, Pa., to York County, Pa., then to Frederick County, Maryland, in the area later erected as Carroll County. This was not very many miles from the home of Newcomer, who contacted the family there, preaching at the home of Mr. A. Shuey as his first appointment after leaving home to make one of his tours of the circuit.

The descendants of a third son of Daniel Shuey, by name Ludwig or Lewis, (1726-1775) were the most numerous to have United Brethren connections. The repetition of the Christian name, "John," given to five of his sons, strikes us of the present as rather odd. Their names were: John Henry, John Martin, John, John Ludwig, and John Adam. There was a sixth son, named Christian. The United Brethren Shueys of Lebanon County are the offspring of the eldest son, John Henry.

The second son, John Martin, is the man of whom we write as Martin the younger. He was born June 20, 1750, and lived in Bethel Township, Lebanon County until 1805, when he sold most of his land, and with his wife and eight of their ten children moved to Twin Valley near Germantown, Ohio. So the Shuey and Zeller families again were neighbors. Christina, the eldest daughter of Martin Shuey and wife, Margaret Conrad, married John Zeller. They were members of the United Brethren Church. Another daughter, Margaret, married John Moyer, and a third daughter, Eva, married John Dodds. These families were members of our church in Dayton, Ohio. The youngest son of Martin Shuey, the younger, was Adam. He married Hannah Aley. In early married life this couple lived in Miamisburg, Ohio, and became members of the United Brethren Church at that place. Their home was open for public worship and for the comfort of traveling United Brethren preachers. They moved to the vicinity of Springfield, Ohio, in 1838, and were instrumental in the erection of Newcomer Chapel, later known as the Lagonda Avenue United Brethren Church. Sixteen

years later this family moved to Dayton where the father was for a time foreman of the mailing department of our Publishing House. Rev. Chester B. Boda of Miami Conference was their grandson. Their son, Rev. William J. Shuey was a minister and presiding elder in the same conference. He was also one of the first foreign missionaries of our Church, going to Africa in 1855. From 1865 to 1897, he was agent of the Publishing House. A great host of people, of whom the writer was one, called at his residence, 35 South Perry Street, Dayton, Ohio, February 9, 1917, on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday anniversary, to extend congratulations on his long and notable career as a churchman.

The third son of Ludwig Shuey (1726-1775) was John. He located in Washington County, Maryland, about two miles from Boonsboro. His son John married Rosanna Geeting. The fourth son of Ludwig, i.e., John Ludwig Shuey (1755-1839) on leaving Bethel Township, Lebanon County, in the year 1795, settled in Augusta County, Virginia, at the headwaters of the Middle River. Newcomer and other early United Brethren ministers frequently preached at Ludwig Shuey's. Services were regularly held in the barn of his son Henry. On October 10-12, 1807 a Sacramental Meeting was held at the home of John Shuey, another son of John Ludwig. This son John Shuey was married to Catharine Funkhouser. In 1835 they moved to Vigo County, Indiana. They were influential United Brethren. Two of their sons; Ephraim and John P. were ministers. Ephraim had a son James F. who was a minister. John P. Shuey was presiding elder for a time, and so was his son, Joseph Glossbrenner Shuey. One son of the latter, Edward Homer Shuey was minister, conference superintendent, and Field Secretary for Westfield College. Another son of John P., William R. was professor in Westfield College and later its president. All these men served the United Brethren Church.

Christian Shuey, the sixth son of John Ludwig (1755-1839) married Catharine Geeting, a granddaughter of Rev. George Adam Geeting Sr. Their son received the baptismal name of his great-grandfather Geeting. George Adam Shuey was an itinerant preacher in the denomination. The eldest daughter of Christian Shuey, Maria M., married the Rev. J. J. Glossbrenner who for ten quadrenniums (1845-1885) served as bishop in the church, and then was bishop emeritus until his death in 1887. Catharine Virginia Glossbrenner, a daughter, married Rev. Daniel Kumler Flickinger who went with the Rev. William J. Shuey, a second cousin of his wife, to the African Mission Field in 1855.

Andrew Zeller was a native of the Tulpehocken region. He was first associated with the United Brethren movement in western Berks County, Pennsylvania, and later one of its chief promoters in Montgomery County, Ohio. He was born in the year 1755, eldest son of George Zeller who located south of the Little Swatara Creek, within a mile north of the present village of Mt. Aetna, Tulpehocken Township, Berks County. The Zeller family were members of the Tulpehocken Reformed Church of which Otterbein was pastor,



The Zeller Home in Pennsylvania

1758-60. The father died in the year 1792. Two of his sons; Andrew and John were frequently hosts to Newcomer and Geeting. A two-day meeting was held at John Zeller's, May 21-22, 1799. Newcomer mentions two other Sacramental Meetings held at "Zeller's near the Little Swatara," in the years 1800, and 1803, respectively. Andrew lived in a large log house, approximately 30 by 60 feet, the eastern section having a large room on the first floor in which, most likely, meetings were held.

In 1806 he sold his lands totaling 338 acres for the sum of 4,750 pounds and moved to the vicinity of Germantown, Ohio. In the erection of his Ohio home, he again provided a room for public worship. His home became the center of activity for the work of the church in Montgomery County. It is not known when he entered the ministry. At the time of holding the first session of the Ohio (Miami) Conference, August 13, 1810, he was recognized as having the full authority of an elder. Most likely, he had the same recognition in Pennsylvania, but having removed to Ohio in 1806, his name does not appear on the list with those who had received full authority by the year 1812.

The minutes of Miami Conference, 1815 session, show that he with six others, was formally ordained at that session. Sessions of the same conference for the years 1812, 1814, and 1816 were held at his house. In 1818 he came to the home of Christian Hershey near Lancaster, Pa. to preside at the session of the original conference.

The influences which originated with him within the bounds of our conference were continued by his neighbors and his offspring, and will be recited in connection with the sketch of the Mt. Aetna Church.

Abraham Troxel³ gave twenty-two years of spiritual ministry in the revival movement while residing in Lebanon County. His father, Abraham Drachsel, came to Pennsylvania in a period when the German-Swiss immigration was at its height. He arrived September 15, 1749, on the ship *Phoenix* which had 550 passengers aboard, the largest number on any one vessel during that year. The list shows that twenty-two ships arrived in 1749, that the largest number carried on any one ship was 550, but that the average was 308, and that the total number of passengers on all the twenty-two ships was 6,787.⁴ This statement, included in this connection, gives one an opportunity to note the expansion of the German-Swiss immigration which had its beginning, so far as the inland settlements are concerned, with the coming of the ship *Maria Hope*.⁵

The senior Abraham Draksel purchased a large tract of land located in North Lebanon Township, about a mile north of the village of Ebenezer near Lebanon City. Mr. Daniel B. Brandt, a member of our church at Ebenezer is the present owner of ninety-four acres of this tract. Here Abraham Troxel, subject of this sketch was born, November 1, 1751. His parents were members of the Amish Society. Of all the elements which entered into the making of the United Brethren in Christ Church, this was the most conservative. Two of our early historians; Spayth⁶ and Lawrence⁷ relate his spiritual reformation. Lawrence gives the fuller account, from which we quote as follows:

Mr. Draksel, being an obedient and loving son of kind parents, and leading a strictly moral, and in the estimation of his Amish brethren, pious life, was, in his twenty-sixth year, encouraged to take part in preaching, which he did with such grace and ability as he had. Soon after he began to preach, however, he felt the need of a change of heart, and, through the grace of God, experienced that change. The love of Christ, which was to him a blessed reality, constrained him to preach it to his brethren; and in the warmth and joy of his first love, he had hoped that the doctrine of the new birth, and the news of his own happy conversion, would be well received by them; but it was not so. That the kingdom of Christ did not consist in rigid outward rules, or forms, or ordinances, but in peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, they would not believe.

On the contrary, they were offended and scandalized by the new and heartfelt experience and preaching of Draksel, and determined to silence him. After having admonished him the third time, without producing the desired change, either in his religious views or manner of preaching, they sent a special deputation of the elders of the society to announce to him the decision of his brethren, and that he should be silent. When these elders had finished their work and departed, it appeared to him that angels came and ministered unto him, and he felt such peace and comfort in God as he had never before enjoyed. Choosing to obey God rather than man, he continued to

preach, and, in 1782, became associated with the United Brethren, with whom he labored forty-three years.

Behind this well-worded account of Rev. Troxel's experience one must seek for the heart-throbs, prayers, and anxieties of a young man who chooses between a new faith and the faith of his fathers. Not only for him but for all the converts of the new awakening, it meant what Jesus said: "he that forsaketh not father and mother . . . for my sake and the Gospel's cannot be my disciple."

But seemingly there was no harbored ill-will between father and son. His father realizing that no man has a permanent abode in this world drew up a will three years and five months before his death. By it he bequeathed his 220-acre farm to his son Abraham. There is no codicil to show that the father changed his mind, or attitude toward his son, in the time intervening between the making of the Will and his death.

Rev. Abraham Troxel continued to reside on the old homestead for twenty years following the passing of his father. His home like that of his contemporaries became the meeting place for general public meetings and Sacramental Meetings. From it he traveled rather extensively to tell what God had wrought in his soul. He frequently preached at points in the counties both east and west of the Susquehanna River, and in Maryland. In the year 1799 he accompanied Newcomer on an itinerary which took them westward to the Monongahela River. It was on this or a similar trip that he spotted the site of his future home. Newcomer writes under date of October 2, 1804, of being in Shippensburg, and "here I also met Br. Draksel and his family on their way to Westmoreland. He gave me the pleasing intelligence of a great revival west of the mountains." Subsequently he resided in Westmoreland County, near Mt. Pleasant and the famed Bonnet's Schoolhouse, where the first and second General Conferences were held. He was a member of the first session, held in the year 1815. He died in 1825.

His daughter, Frances, remained in Lebanon County and married Samuel Brightbill. Numerous descendants, members of United Brethren churches in the Lebanon Valley, trace their ancestry to this couple. Abraham Brightbill, son of Samuel owned the land on which the United Brethren Church, known as Brightbills, was erected.

Martin Kreider performed a service for the United Brethren cause in Lebanon County similar to that of Martin Boehm in Lancaster County. He was born in Lebanon County, November 4, 1740. Next to Otterbein and Boehm, he was the oldest minister from the standpoint of age and probably from that of ministerial service. Dr. Drury is of the opinion that he was preaching as early as 1772. Those who compiled the list of the United Ministers as of the time of the conference held at Otterbein's parsonage in 1789, included his name as one of them. He, however, was not present at that conference, not at any succeeding, except in the year 1812. His name is not on the list

of those who had been authorized, by the year 1812, to perform all the rites of a minister. His ministry in the Word was confined to the people near his home and his relation was that of a lay-preacher rather than that of a licensed or ordained preacher.

A Sacramental Meeting was held on his premises, May 27-29, 1797, on which occasion, Newcomer, Martin Boehm, and Christian Crum preached with great power. The Rev. Kreider took part in similar meetings in communities east of the Susquehanna. The Kreider residence was southwest of Lebanon City. His father, Christian Kreider, was a son of a previous generation who had settled in the vicinity of Lancaster. Christian took out a warrant for 585 acres of land whose northern limits now include the southwestern suburban area of the City of Lebanon. Martin, one of four sons, received a share of his father's land. He married Catharine Schmutz whose parents lived about two miles northeast of the city of Lebanon. Martin Kreider and wife Catharine were the parents of eleven children.



Stone Markers
Christian Grosch and Wife
Ranck's Church Yard



Stone Marker
Martin Kreider
Family Burial Plot

The oldest of the children of Martin and Catharine Kreider was John. He married Barbara Smith, and about the year 1786 moved to Hamilton Township, Franklin County. John Crider^s was licensed by the original conference in the year 1812. It is this event which may account for the father's attendance at annual conference session. Rev. John Crider was ordained an elder in 1817.

Christian Smith Crider, born February 1, 1811, son of the Rev. John, and grandson of the Reverend Martin, was received into annual conference in the year 1835, and was ordained four years later at a session held in Light's Meetinghouse, Lebanon, Pa. He opened a Mission in the city of York in 1840, in which work he remained until conference of 1842. The following two years he was

appointed to York Circuit. He was appointed to Lebanon City Station and its affiliated classes in 1845. While pastor at Lebanon the first Salem Church was erected. His pastorates terminated in 1848, when he was elected presiding elder and assigned to the Lebanon District. He served as presiding elder of said district for two years. Due to ill health he received no assignment in 1850. He died March 7, one month after that conference had been called into session. Thus at the age of thirty-nine years, one month, and six days, his very promising career came to a close.

So the contribution of Martin Kreider to the church whose cause he espoused is not limited to his personal service in that church but continued in the generations succeeding him.

Felix Light. The spiritual successor to Martin Kreider was Felix Light. He was a giant in stature, both physically and spiritually. Dr. Brane describes his physical appearance thus: "In physical form and features he was the embodiment of strength and beauty. He was six feet and three inches in height and weighed two hundred and forty pounds."⁹ His spiritual greatness consisted of deep human sympathy, evangelical passion, and persevering faith. In his own time and community he stands unmatched in the influence he exerted.

He was the grandson of John Light (Hans Licht or Lichte), who in 1738 purchased a tract of 274 acres of land whose eastern boundary was on the line of Seventh Street, and its southern boundary on the line of Church Street as of the present Lebanon City. Adjoining this tract on the east lay one of 205 acres of which he became owner six years later. On the land first purchased he erected a large stone dwelling in the year 1742. The house is standing today, located on Water Street near Eleventh. It is claimed that the Mennonites had services in it, and that Hans Light was a member of that Society. The house served admirably as a place of refuge for the harrassed citizens of Bethel and Hanover Townships when the redmen extended their cruel raids to and within the northern borders of the county. For a time a stockade stood about the house and so it became known as, "The Old Fort."

Hans Light died in the year 1759. His sons were: Martin, Jacob, John and Henry. Succeeding pages will show how large a contribution the sons and daughters of these men have made to United Brethren church membership. Without doubt, they outnumber those of any other family in our conference. Rev. Felix Light the son of John Light Jr., was born November 11, 1767. At the time of his birth Lebanon was a hamlet of about two hundred houses. The Light farms, then the property of the sons of John Sr., lay within a half mile to the north and east of it. Felix Light's father acquired the farm to the east. It in turn became Felix's property, and his house substantially built of brick, stood some rods east of Second Street and north of Cumberland.



**Hans Light
Residence
and
"Old Fort"
Built 1742
(Photo, about 1910)**

It can be authentically stated that the second and third generations of Lebanon County Light families were Mennonites. The Deed for the lot on which Light's Meetinghouse was erected in 1817 confirms this fact. Abraham Light Sr., brother of Felix was the grantor; Felix and his brother Martin, and their nephew Abraham Jr. son of said Abraham Sr., were the grantees—"Trustees of the Mennonist Society, settled, established, living, or residing in Lebanon Township, County of Lebanon, and its vicinity." According to this legal document, Felix Light, was a trustee of a Mennonite Meetinghouse in 1817. A printed historical sketch dealing with Shirk's United Brethren Church states that Felix Light was one of two Mennonite ministers participating in the dedicatory services of "Shirk's Union Meeting House," in the year 1825. So much from sources which show him to be a Mennonite.

We shall now consider his relation to the United Brethren. He preached at John Crider's, Franklin County, Sunday evening, January 1, 1806. Eight years after the United Brethren in Christ Church was organized, Christian Newcomer, "preached at Felix Lichte's near Lebanon." The following May, Christian Newcomer, Mathias Bortsfeld, and Abraham Draksel preached at a Sacramental Meeting at Felix Lichte's. On Sunday, June 27, 1810, Felix Lichte was present at a Sacramental Meeting held at Christian Hershey's in Lancaster County. On three other occasions, in the years 1812, 1818, and 1824, respectively, Newcomer held services at Felix Lichte's home. Newcomer attended a campmeeting on the premises of Felix Light, September first to sixth, 1825.

In addition to the quotation from the Lebanon Salem Church Book given in a previous paragraph, there is another very illuminating statement in the same book. In order to get the full import of the statement, we quote it in its entirety. The writer takes the liberty to change its wording, without effecting the sense.

The United Brethren saw proper to build a meetinghouse one-half mile north of Lebanon, at which dedication a number of the United Brethren preachers were present, and one of

Light's Meetinghouse

Built 1817

From a Pen Sketch

by John H. Wirt

Member of Lebanon

Salem Church

According to Description

of William M. Guilford, M. D.

When he was 104 years

of age.



the Conference members, John Neidig, preached the dedication sermon. But when the Deed for the house was written, and the inquiry made, to what Order or Sect shall it be deeded, after pausing awhile, the reply was; the Impartial Mennonites. The same person who had the Deed drawn up soon thereafter became a member and preacher of the Conference of the United Brethren in Christ; this same person, Felix Light, paid nearly four hundred dollars of his own money for the liquidation of the old church debt. Furthermore, the Society, Order, or Denomination of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ had peaceable possession of that meeting house from the first day to the last, for twenty-odd years until the new church was completed. Therefore the selfsame Society in the Borough of Lebanon was completed. To this fact we do not hesitate for a moment to call hundreds of witnesses. Again, it is equally evident that out of the soul of the Mennonite Reformation grew the Society known by the name (Allgemeinem) or United Brethren in Christ. There were those who at first saw proper not to join the Conference, yet in their declining years, they gave their ministerial charges and respective congregations to the pastoral care of the members of the Conference of the United Brethren in Christ; Kreider and Sherk to Felix Light and Henry Landis, and they in turn to John and Casper Light and Samuel Etter.

This statement, from the pen of one who soon after the first Salem Church was built in the year 1845, explains the transition from Mennonite to United Brethren adherence. Though the Deed specifies that the property is for the use of the Mennonites, this statement leaves the impression that in 1817 there was a reform element within the Mennonite body about Lebanon which took a sort of middle position. They called themselves the Allegemeine (Universal),

Impartial, or Unparteiischen (Unsectarian) Mennonites. But the statement further shows that they moved from a middle ground to complete adherence to the United Brethren, and that Felix Light was the chief leader in the transition.

It was a very gradual change. The series of steps, so far as outward evidence is concerned, are as follows: first, Felix Light opens his home to United Brethren preaching; second, he permits a Sacramental Meeting at his home; third, he attends, and preaches at such meetings away from home; fourth, he arranges for a six-day camp-meeting on his farm; fifth, he attends the United Brethren Conference; sixth, three of his sons become members of annual conference; and finally, he is instrumental in having the 1836 and 1839 annual conference sessions meet in Light's Meetinghouse.

While there is no record of him being licensed by conference, his name appears on the conference roll of ministers and he is present at the sessions held in 1832, 1833, 1836, and 1839. These sessions convened at points east of the Susquehanna River, and were the only sessions held in our area during that decade while he lived. He was then in his seventies. Advanced age and illness prevented him from being too active in his declining years.

The Landmark's History states the following concerning his ministry:

When he was about forty years old he left the farm in the hands of his boys, and gave himself almost exclusively to the work of an evangelist, preaching every four weeks at Lebanon, Jonestown, Kauffman's and Gingrich's; and every six weeks at Weiss', Sherk's, Dinger's, Kendig's and Strohm's, in addition to which he had many special engagements and preached many funeral sermons.¹⁰

Rev. J. S. Kessler tells of a visit to Felix Light's home, in the following words:

Father Light requested him to accompany him on a visiting tour through the town. House after house they entered. All seemed to know Father Light. He conversed freely with the residents respecting their health and condition; but most particularly did he inquire of the state of their souls, always imparting such advice, warning, and encouragement, as the nature of the case seemed to demand. In the pulpit Father Light was an eloquent, zealous reasoner, and had many seals to his ministry.¹¹

This much-esteemed servant of God died January 23, 1841, at the age of seventy-three years, two months, and twelve days. Mr. J. Uhler wrote an obituary which appeared in the Religious Telescope, from which we quote:

Funeral services were attended by the largest concourse of friends and relatives ever assembled on such an occasion in our neighborhood. He bore his sickness with Christian fortitude. The house of brother Light was the home of the travel-

ing preacher for many years, and where the poor without distinction found relief. Whenever he heard of a sick person, he made it his duty to visit and aid them as soon as possible, and to assist them in the salvation of their souls, no matter to what church they belonged, and almost always when persons were under conviction of sin, father Light was sent for to converse and pray with them, and many whom he thus assisted and instructed both in private and public will here and hereafter praise God for redeeming love.¹²

The wife of Felix Light was Barbara Sherk, daughter of Casper Sherk Jr. and wife, Barbara Hunsicker, of Bethel Township, Lebanon County. This Casper Sherk, (1734-1817) son of Casper and grandson of Ulrich the immigrant, was a preacher of the Mennonites. The church of that denomination at Shirksville, near Fredericksburg, is located on land he sold to the trustees of said church in the year 1775. Newcomer paid a visit to his home in 1803, and made the following notation in his Journal: "This day I paid a visit to the Rev. Mr. Sherk: he and his companion are a pious couple, may God preserve them in the way to everlasting glory." The writer of the Salem Church record associates him with Martin Kreider. So he too, in his advanced years was very friendly to the United Brethren cause, and was to a degree cooperating with them. To Felix Light and wife Barbara five children were born: John, Casper, Joseph F., and daughters: Mary, who married a Jacob Light, and Anna who died unmarried.

The Reverend John Light was born November 14, 1808. He lived in the house erected by his father. In 1832, he received annual conference license, and was ordained in 1835. His first service in the conference was in the capacity of a presiding elder. He served the Lancaster-Lebanon District as presiding elder during the conference years, 1836-39; 1840-42; and, 1845-46. He was pastor of the Lebanon-Annville charge 1842-43, of the Lebanon charge 1843-45. This completes the record of conference appointment. He died a comparatively young man, at the age of forty-two years, five months and fifteen days. He was a man of good talents and sound judgment. His preaching was edifying to the Christian and convincing to the sinner. The character and philosophy of John Light are shown in an incident which took place at the conference of 1845. One of the resolutions introduced was to the effect that all members of conference be required to wear shad-belly coats. Another was that all members of conference be required to wear their hair straight down over the forehead, and not to comb it up or to the side. Both resolutions were voted down. One of those who opposed such fanaticism was John Light.

He contended that every Christian man ought to have common sense enough to know for himself how to dress. If the fault was in the head, if common sense was wanting, he was not fit to be a minister, and his license should be demanded. If the fault was in the heart, then the proper place to

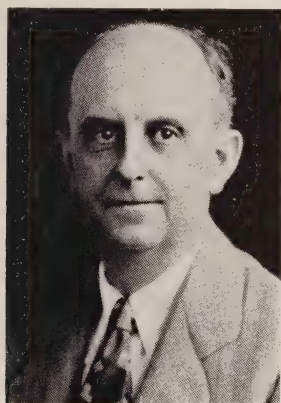
begin to whittle was at the heart and not at the coat or hair. Get the heart right, and let it be filled with the Holy Ghost; then it will regulate the man and his dress in every respect; cleanse the fountain, and the stream will be pure.¹³

Concerning his death, the following was written:

The same day he left this world, his attending physician was to see him, and returning to town, he informed the lawyers and doctors, at least some of them, that if they wanted to see a Christian die, they should step out to John Light's, who, he remarked would live but a few hours more, where they could behold the beautiful scene.¹⁴

The words of another quite agree with the doctor's testimony:

For weeks before he died he seemed to know the very hour when he would have to go. Accordingly he set his house in order; made his will; and just before the summons came he gathered his family around him, gave them his farewell advice and his parting blessing, and then looking at the clock remarked, "my time is come," and he died calmly as if he had fallen asleep.¹⁵



John C. H. Light

August 14, 1872

March 24, 1950

Great Grandson

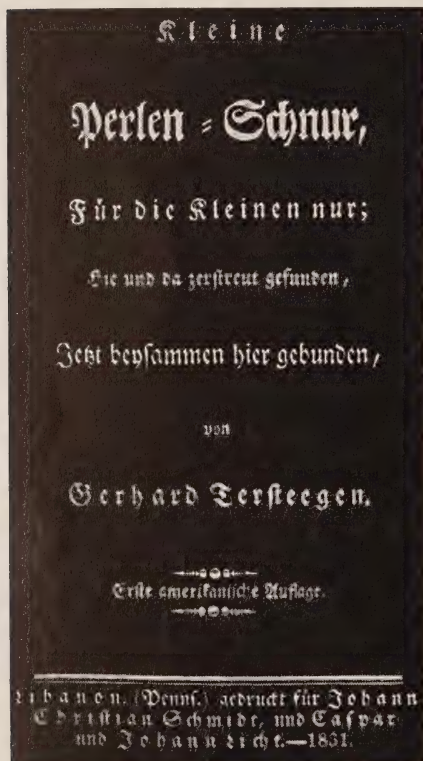
of

Felix Light

The Reverend John Light and wife Anna Hoffer had three sons who were United Brethren ministers; i.e., Rudolph, Job, and Ezekiel. Rudolph Light, born November 7, 1826, was licensed in 1854. He held charges in East Pennsylvania, then went as missionary to Canada, and in 1887 transferred to Erie Conference. Later he returned to Lebanon County and had the status of a local elder. Job Light (1839-1888), began his ministry in the Ohio German Conference at the age of twenty. In 1868 he transferred to East Pennsylvania, served churches on Bellegrove Circuit, in Reading, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Myerstown. He was presiding elder for four years, 1874-1878, in the East German Conference. His son John C. H. Light, is the last of the family name having membership in East Pennsylvania. He alone bears the distinction of being the member of a family which has an unbroken line of ministerial

brethren serving from the time of the formative period of our conference to the present. He has been in the ministry fifty-two years, in active work forty-nine years, and he had high hopes of making it fifty, but illness prevented, so that he was compelled to ask for retirement at the conference of 1945.

The Reverend Ezekiel Light (1834-1904), was converted at the age of seventeen in Salem Church, Lebanon. Four years later he was licensed by Ohio German Conference. He transferred membership to East Pennsylvania in 1865. His ministry was in varied capacities, serving sixteen years in the pastorate, ten in the eldership, three in the chaplaincy during the Civil War, three as agent of Lebanon Valley College, six as editor of German literature, and seven as chaplain of the Soldier's Home, Dayton, Ohio. Intellectually speaking, he was competent and cultivated, and enjoyed a wide range of information respecting almost every department of thought and feeling. As a preacher he was able and resourceful, philosophically strong and spiritually inspiring to head and heart.



Translation of Title Page

A STRING OF SMALL PEARLS

For Children Only

Found Scattered Here and There

Now Bound Together Herein

by

Gerhard Tersteegen

First American Edition

Lebanon (Penns.), Printed for John
Christian Smith, And Casper
and John Light—1831

This small book is the property of Arville G. Light, of Lebanon, Pa., a great-great-grandson of the Reverend Felix Light; contains short stories of personal religious faith adaptable for instruction of young people; shows interest of those for whom it was printed.

The Reverend Casper Light, second son of the Reverend Felix, was born September 7, 1804, and died August 2, 1857. Like his father, he was a man of powerful and impressive physique. He was less argumentative in discourse than his brother John, but possessed the advantages of a remarkable retentive memory. He knew the Hymn Book by heart, was very gifted in singing and had a well-trained and magnificent voice. He received annual license a year later than his brother John, but both were ordained in the same year, 1835. He also, was presiding elder of the Lancaster-Lebanon District. His terms as such were: 1842-44; 1846-47; and 1850-51. He was pastor of Lebanon Circuit, 1845-46, associated with John A. Sand. The writer learned, from the lips of one whose father was present when Eby's Church, near Mt. Joy was dedicated in 1851, of an incident in the career of Casper Light who preached on that occasion. It had been a remarkably dry season. But while the service was in progress rain began to fall. This caused a commotion among the numerous horses tied near the church. Hearing this, the audience was somewhat disturbed. Whereupon the preacher admonished the congregation to pay no attention to the horses but to attend to the business of worship.

One son of Casper Light, Joel by name, was a minister. Reverend Joel Light (1840-1904), served ten charges in East German Conference which he joined in 1871. He was educated in the schools of Lebanon and attended Otterbein University. For reasons of his own he chose always to preach in the German language. His sermons were well arranged and delivered with zeal and energy. He was a man of strong social qualities—truly a man among men, carrying sunshine and cheer wherever he went. As a revivalist he was not excelled in the conference.

The Reverend Joseph F. Light, the third son of Felix, joined the ministerial ranks but had a very much shorter service in the active ministry than his brothers. He was born February 11, 1813, and at the age of twenty-two was converted in the Light's Meetinghouse. He received quarterly license on Christmas Day in the year 1858, and was received into East Pennsylvania Conference in 1861. Middleburg Circuit was his only conference appointment. His health being poor, he ceased to travel, but preached considerably in a local capacity.

Thus Felix Light, his three sons, four grandsons, and one great grandson bring to eight in number of Light men who were members of the conference, five of whom were presiding elders. Four others by the same family name are on our ministerial roll. The name of father Felix Light, is blessed, and his works do follow him.

John Neidig Sr. Of the men thus far noticed, who had resided permanently within our area, the Rev. John Neidig followed most closely an organized church order. He was present at the 1791 conference. He has a more consistent record of attendance at the sessions of annual conference than any of his contemporaries in the eastern area. He, more than any one else, was instrumental in

building the meetinghouse named after him, i.e., "Neidig's Meetinghouse," Oberlin, Pennsylvania. His progressive measures are all the more significant when we note this to be the first United Brethren building erected east of the Susquehanna, predating by thirty years any other such erected. His name stands first as a trustee, is first on the list of subscribers, and he handled the accounts for erection of the said building.

His adherence to the doctrine and practices of Otterbein and his ability as a preacher were recognized in that he was selected to be pastor of the Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Maryland, in which capacity he served three years, 1828-1831. He was officially assigned overseer of the work east of the river, in the years 1812, 1820, and 1826. In 1812 he served jointly with Christopher Grosh. He probably served unofficially during other years.

John Neidig was born in Berks County, April 10, 1765. He had a brother, Abraham, and a sister, Elizabeth. When these children were quite small, the mother died. The father, Abraham Neidig then married, Elizabeth, the widow of Jacob Eshelman, deceased.¹⁶ When son John was about five years of age, Abraham Neidig and his family moved from Cumru Township, Berks County, to Paxtang (now Swatara) Township, Dauphin County, near Highspire. The Neidigs were said to have been of the German Reformed Faith, but in their new neighborhood the younger members of the family became adherents of the Mennonite Society.

In the twenty-fifth year of his age, John Neidig was chosen by lot to be a preacher by the Mennonites. Spayth tells of young Neidig's experiences in an incident arising from it, as follows:

Being now set apart as a preacher, the desire for a clean heart, and the token that he was a child of God (as he expressed it), pressed more heavily upon him, and he prayed more frequently and more fervently. Beside this, he felt the necessity and importance of preaching an experimental salvation from sin; and this salvation he soon found, and was made to rejoice. He began to preach with much force and energy, the cause, the nature, and the necessity of the new birth. This was more than his Mennonite brethren expected from him, and more than they as a church, were willing to receive. One instance we will relate in a few words: "Some time after his conversion, whilst he was preaching and exhorting with much feeling, many in the congregation were crying loud enough to be heard. The old preacher caught brother Neidig by the arm, saying—'O not so brother. You press the subject too far.' To this he quietly replied—'There is no stopping this side of heaven. I will press it—yet more earnestly'."¹⁷

This source indicates also that he began preaching for the Mennonites about the year 1790. Those who erected a tombstone at the head of his grave caused to be inscribed thereon: "A Minister of the Gospel to the United Brethren in Christ for fifty-three years." This

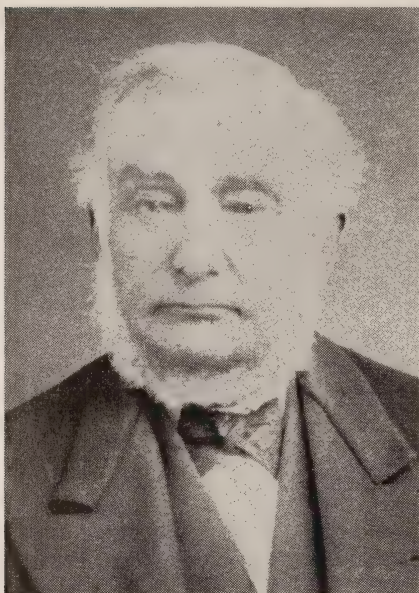
reckoning would set the year 1791 as the time when he became associated with the United Ministers. It is a certainty that he was present at the United Minister's Conference in the year 1791, and was from that time forward recognized as one of their number having full ministerial standing. Newcomer, on coming up the Cumberland Valley, made his last stopping-place that of the elder John Shopp just east of Shiremanstown, and on crossing the river, made his first stop at John Neidig's. The Journal records twenty-four visits made at the Neidig home.

The Rev. John Neidig, Sr., married Mary Bear of Lancaster County. Six sons and two daughters were born to this union. These children exemplified the spirit and devotion of their parents in the several communities which they chose for their residence. The daughters were Anna and Elizabeth. Elizabeth married Michael Frantz, and their daughter Mary Frantz married the Rev. John Raysor. The sons of John Neidig Sr. and Mary Bear were: Abraham, Daniel, John Jr., Samuel, Jacob, Benjamin, Isaac and Jonathan. Abraham married Nancy Hagey and moved to Frederick County, Maryland. Benjamin first married Catharine Snively, and after her decease, Mary Hershey of Hagerstown, Maryland. Daniel and Samuel lived in the vicinity of Highspire. Samuel was a trustee for the first church property held by the United Brethren in Highspire. Jacob married Catharine Shopp of Shiremanstown. The sons; John, Isaac and Jonathan went to Iowa. John Jr. married Nancy Hershey, daughter of Rev. Christian Hershey of Lancaster County. They went with one of the Hershey migrations to Iowa, and John Jr. became a minister there. Jonathan married Catharine Hershey, daughter of Reverend Abraham Hershey of near Carlisle. They also moved to Iowa.

Catharine Shopp, above mentioned, was a daughter of John Shopp Sr., (1761-1821), and wife Anna Hershey. Their home became a center of evangelical life and influence. Here the Hershey's, Shopp's, and Neidig's, shared an exceedingly enriching Christian and social fellowship. In 1827, a church constructed of limestone was erected on John Shopp's land, about a half mile east of Shiremanstown. A burial ground where the Shopp's, Jacob Neidig and wife, Bishop Jacob Erb and wife, the Reverend Samuel Eberly and wife, the Reverend George Gilbert and wife, and other saints sleep the sleep of the blessed, marks the site where the church stood.

It is by the courtesy of Mr. N. H. Huffman—one of the organizers of our mission work in Puerto Rico—a grandson of Isaac Neidig, great grandson of the Reverend John Neidig Sr., that we secured a photograph of the latter. Father Neidig lived to the advanced age of seventy-eight years, nine months, and one day. His body was laid to rest in the Highspire General Cemetery. One of his co-workers, the Reverend Jacob Roop wrote briefly, concerning his demise and funeral.

John Neidig died at his residence near Highspire, Dauphin County, January 11, 1844 in the full faith of the Gospel of



John Neidig Sr.

Christ. Father Neidig's preaching was plain and simple, forcibly impressing upon the minds of the people the necessity of experimental religion. For the last two years he was dwindling away, growing weaker all the while, confined to his bed for several weeks. Brother Simon Dreisbach preached from Amos, chapter four, and the writer from II Timothy, 4:6-8.¹⁸

John Hershey. The United Brethren movement during its early stages drew into its current numerous members of the Hershey family. Closely associated with them through intermarriage and church connections was the Herr family. We begin the recital of their contributions to the movement with an account of Reverend John Hershey who was born in Hempfield Township, Lancaster County in the year 1740 or 41, and died April 4, 1811 in Washington County Maryland. His residence at the time of his early ministry was within the present city limits of Harrisburg. His name is among those who were recognized ministers at the time of the conference of 1791. During the first decade of organized work of the conference, he was present at seven of its sessions. During this same decade he participated in public services at Sacramental Meetings, Camp-meetings, and in private homes, held in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. He also visited the regions of Erie County, New York; and Waterloo County, Ontario, Canada.

In considering the foundations for the work of the United Brethren in and about Harrisburg, the name of John Hershey must not be overlooked. It was by individuals like him, whose work east of

the Susquehanna River has remained in oblivion, that the foundation stones for a future church were laid. The public records give ample proof that he lived in Dauphin County and that he was a minister at the time.

The land on which he lived had been in the possession of his father, Rev. Andrew Hershey of the Mennonite Church, since the year 1752. As early as 1770, John Hershey was a landholder in Paxton Township, as per tax assessment lists. A similar list for the year 1780, has, "John Hershey, preacher," and those for the years 1786 and 1787 have, "John Hershey, Rev'd." The land for which he was assessed was a 199-acre tract, lying on Paxtang Creek, which on its southwest bordered land of John Harris Sr., the founder of the city named for him. This tract included that section of the city now within the area bounded approximately, by Walnut Street on the south, Muench Street on the north, and by Ninth and Fourteenth Streets west and east. John Harris Jr. laid out a part of his land in town lots in the year 1784. In 1786 John Hershey bought lot number 141 fronting on the north side of Market Street. It adjoined the lot on the east upon which the first courthouse was erected. He sold half of this lot to Dr. John Dentzel in 1789, and the remaining half to William Grayson, attorney, in 1791.

Whether, in 1780, John Hershey was a preacher for the Mennonites, or whether he was affiliated with our pioneer preachers, is uncertain. From the known facts of his Mennonite background, it may be supposed that he was first a preacher for that Society. Dr. Schaff says he was a member of the Mennonites.¹⁹ To that we can agree. But when Dr. Schaff states that he, "changed his church relationship after his removal to Beaver Creek settlement identifying himself with the United Brethren in Christ," we disagree. We know that he was one of the United Ministers by 1791, which was before he moved to Beaver Creek.

The land records in the Dauphin County courthouse show that he disposed of his farm in five parcels. The second last sale was on April 4, 1792. At that time he was still a resident of Paxtang Township. The Washington County, Maryland records show he bought land first in that county in 1793. These land transfers therefore indicate that he moved to Maryland in 1792 or 1793. His brother Isaac, also settled in Washington County, about the same time. His residence was a few miles to the west of John Hershey Sr.

In Maryland, John Hershey's home was one of the appointments for United Brethren preachers. His descendants played a large part in the life of the St. Paul's congregation. His son John (1771-1854), lived in Hagerstown. He was one of the organizers of the old Hagerstown Bank, was elected Mayor of the town, and took part in other public affairs. When the Benevolent Society (Preacher's Aid) was organized in 1822 as authorized by the original conference the previous year, John Hershey was elected its first treasurer.

Abraham and Christian Hershey. The gospel of pardon and peace as preached by our pioneers found lodgment in the heart of Abraham Hershey, father of Reverends Abraham and Christian. He welcomed these heralds of the Cross to his threshold and shared the hospitality of his house for the preaching of their doctrine. His 305 acre farm, located in Manheim Township, Lancaster County, lay a little more than a mile northeast of the Lancaster city limits. The house and barn became the scene of many a numerous gathering of United Brethren worshippers, first when he was their proprietor, and later, when his sons, Abraham and Christian, in succession held them in their own right.

In the closing years of the eighteenth century a gracious revival was held in the Hershey neighborhood which resulted in many converts. Newcomer came to Abraham Hershey's house on November 20, 1799 and preached at night to a numerous assembly, many of the people being new converts, "yet in their first love."

The Hershey home was but a mile west of the Lancaster-New Holland Turnpike. This road was Newcomer's route of travel from Lancaster out to Bareville and to his former home.

Abraham Hershey, father of these two preacher sons, was a first cousin of the Rev. John Hershey. Their immigrant ancestor, Christian Hershey located, in 1717, on 500 acres of land lying on both sides of the Little Conestoga Creek. The first buildings were erected on the north side of the Marietta Pike about midway between Lancaster and Rohrerstown. The progenitor of this Hershey family lived only three years after coming to the Lancaster region. He had three sons: Benjamin, a famous bishop of the Mennonite Church; Andrew, and Christian. Andrew was father of nine sons and three daughters. Of these sons, two; i.e., John and Isaac have already been mentioned. Christian Hershey, son of Christian the immigrant, had three sons and six daughters. Of the daughters more will be said under the Herr families. One of the three sons, was Abraham, the father of the preacher brothers. He died in 1811, the same year in which his cousin, John, died in Maryland.

The Reverend Abraham Hershey, eldest son of Abraham and Elizabeth Landis Hershey, was born in Manheim Township, March 3, 1774. He married Mary Herr, daughter of Christian Herr and Mary Hershey of Manor Township. Abraham Hershey and wife Mary Herr lived on the old Hershey homestead in Manheim Township for a few years, then moved on a farm in Manor Township, located between the village of Creswell and the Susquehanna River. This farm came to them as a bequest from Mrs. Hershey's father. A burial plot within a quarter of a mile of Creswell, where Reverend Abraham Hershey, his wife, and other kin are interred, is located on the northeast boundary of the farm.

One has to keep in mind that most of the work of the Reverend Abraham Hershey as a minister of the gospel was carried forward

while he lived at Creswell, or as the region is sometimes called, "Turkey Hill." From 1801 forward to his death, May 6, 1839, he was known to be a minister in the United Brethren in Christ Church. As early as 1802 we find him participating in a service at Littlestown, Adams County. He preached extensively, not as an appointed itinerant but as a local itinerant. In 1823, conference assigned him the duties of a presiding elder, a function he probably exercised over a period of years. In 1818 and 1819, respectively, Sacramental Meetings were held on his premises. From 1825 onward another Abraham Hershey, his second cousin, a resident of Cumberland County, was also a minister of the original conference. To distinguish between them in the conference record, the secretaries wisely placed the letter "L" after the name of Lancaster-Abraham, and the letter "C" after the name of Cumberland-Abraham.

His dwelling in the Manor was of large proportions—erected in 1811 with a view of holding religious worship. It was a rendezvous for the early preachers. Newcomer preached there occasionally and more frequently lodged there. It was the scene of the wedding of Barbara Hershey, a daughter of Abraham, and the Reverend Daniel Peiffer, one of the young preachers of the conference, at which the venerable bishop officiated. Not only were the clergy attracted to this home but also other men of public affairs. Governor Ritner of the State of Pennsylvania was a frequent guest. It came about in this way. The Reverend Hershey was a great student of domestic and foreign policy. He was prominently identified with the common-school movement which culminated in the adoption of the common-school law in 1834. When this law was attacked in 1836, and pressure brought on Governor Ritner to veto the new bill drawn by W. H. Burrowes, the Reverend Hershey urged his friend, the Governor, with all his persuasive eloquence, to sign the bill which gave to rich and poor alike that priceless heritage—a chance to get a common-school education. It was the political death of Ritner but he always thereafter held his plain old friend in the highest esteem for aiding him, by his counsel, to stand firm for a measure which was so bitterly opposed, yet gave the Governor lasting fame.

The Reverend Christian Hershey was born June 16, 1777. Upon the death of his father in 1811, the other heirs deeded a farm of 143 acres over to him. It was part of the 305 acres held by his grandfather. Here he resided during the forty years of his ministerial office in Pennsylvania. His name first appears on the conference roll of 1807. In 1814 he was appointed presiding elder of the Lancaster District, to serve for two years. He had a very consistent record of attendance at annual conference sessions. Six great meetings were held on his farm. In connection with the services of the one held May 17-18, 1808, eight persons were baptized in the Conestoga Creek.

The annual conference of the year 1818 was held at his house. Both bishops Newcomer and Zeller were present. Among the twenty-four ministers present were: Christopher Grosh, Christian Hershey, David Gingrich, Joseph Yordy, Abraham Hershey, Christian Smith, and Jacob Zentmeier of Lancaster County.

In 1836, at the age of sixty-two, Christian Hershey traveled the Lancaster Circuit by appointment of conference. The circuit then consisted of about thirty appointments.

The boundless energy and zeal of this Christian stalwart, even in advanced age, is evident in that at the age of seventy-two he made a trip to Iowa in order to view the country with a possibility of entering upon a new enterprise. He was accompanied on this trip by his son Abraham, and his son-in-law, Michael Coover. He bought land in the Yankee Grove District and decided to settle there. The follow-



Christian Hershey House, Manheim Township

ing year, 1847, he sold his Manheim Township farm for the sum of seventeen thousand dollars, formed a colony of about sixty persons, and began the long trek to Linn County, Iowa. The company traveled by train, canal, and steamboat, arriving at Muscatine in the month of May of the same year, thence went fifty miles north across the country, settling on land selected the previous year, forming a small village, and calling it Lisbon. In the company were his five children with the families of each, among them being the Rev. John Neidig Jr., who was married to his daughter Nancy. The Rev. Hershey paid the expenses of moving the entire colony.

Not satisfied with mere commercial and agricultural ventures, he launched out anew in religious enterprise. In 1850, out of his own means, he erected a small brick church at Lisbon, it being the first church building erected by the United Brethren in Iowa. Lisbon was chosen as the meeting place for the annual conference held in August of 1853. A quotation here from the Lisbon Church Souvenir seems appropriate:

Reverend Hershey, who was in a sense the father of the Lisbon Church, looked forward to the coming of the confer-

ence with great expectation. When the time arrived for making the necessary preparations he joined most heartily in the work. After cleaning the church and putting everything in shape, he proposed to a friend who was with him, to go into the church and offer a prayer for the conference. He was in great joy, but on the third of August, (1853), the day before the conference was to meet, very suddenly the death angel called and father Hershey passed away.

The sisters, also, of these two Hershey brothers, with their families, made vital contributions to the United Brethren Church in the several communities to which they removed. Esther Hershey married Jacob Shuemaker—they resided near Manheim. The name of their son, Christian Shuemaker, comes up in connection with our churches at Manheim and Florin. Mary Hershey and her husband John Long, and Ann Hershey and her husband, John Frick, moved to Niagara County, New York. Catharine Hershey married David Long. They settled in Pfautz's Valley, west of Liverpool, Perry County. Annual conference of the year 1816 was held at David Long's in Pfautz's Valley. He was a member of the original conference. Elizabeth Hershey and her husband Christian Erb, the parents of Bishop Jacob Erb and his sister Mrs. Reverend Samuel Eberly, located near West Fairview, Cumberland County.

The fertile spiritual soil of old Lancaster yielded a rich harvest through the life of Abraham Hershey, father of these sons and daughters. It was like unto, "a root out of a dry ground," budding to life and bringing forth fruit to nourish the hungry multitudes.

Christian Herr. The name of Christian Herr and others of the same family name appear very frequently in connection with the early work of the conference. The annual conference sessions of the years 1807, 1809, and 1813 were held at the house of Christian Herr in Manor Township, Lancaster County. This fact alone has great significance when viewed in its proper perspective. When we note that only four annual sessions of the Old Conference were held within our bounds between the years 1800 and 1832, the question arises; why three of them at Christian Herr's? Who was this Christian Herr, where did he live?

The only clue to the answer, appearing in our official conference records, is in item thirteen of the conference minutes, year 1812. It is as follows: "Resolved that the next yearly conference shall be held at Christian Herr's, in Manor Township." By tracing the routes of travel by Bishop Newcomer, and by the many references to Christian Herr in the Journal, the problem of locating his residence narrows down to a spot somewhere in the vicinity of Creswell. After a tedious search of land, and family records, and after visitations to the locality, it was found to be two miles north of Creswell and four miles west of Millersville, along a road from Creswell to Central Manor—a farm now (1946) in possession of Davis Sangrey. The spacious log house, its exterior now coated with cement-stucco, had

a large room on the ground floor in which meetings were held. The barn and the newer dwelling stand west of the old house. On the east gable of the barn is a stone with the inscription: "Built by—David Herr—and his wife—Barbara—1764." Christian Herr made a will in 1820 by which he bequeathed to his son David, this farm. David took possession of it, erected the barn, before the father's death in 1828.



Abraham Hershey Residence
(Until 1811)



Christian Herr House
Manor Township

This house deserves recognition as a shrine of the United Brethren in Christ Church in Lancaster County. The head of the family which occupied it was not a minister. Many years passed before laymen became members of the annual conference. Had it been so in his time, and his good works recorded, we would beyond all doubt behold a man who wielded a tremendous influence in the affairs of the infant denomination. Though not a preacher, he is found traveling with them and supporting them in their work of evangelism. His generosity and interest in the rising church is manifest, as already stated, in entertaining three sessions of annual conference. Furthermore, four times, great crowds of people swarmed over his farm, as they came to Great Meetings held there.

Bishop Martin Boehm presided at the sessions of 1807 and 1809. In 1807, ministers present were: Isaac Nieswander and Christian Crum from Virginia, Christian Newcomer, Frederick Shaffer, and George Adam Geeting from Maryland, and from the counties of Pennsylvania; David Long, of Perry, Abraham Mayer and David Snyder of Cumberland, John Neidig of Dauphin, and Christian Smith, Christian and Abraham Hershey of Lancaster. By the time the 1813 conference was held, Bishop Boehm had died. No bishop being present, Christopher Grosh was elected to preside. At this session Christian Newcomer was elected bishop for one year. This session also selected a committee of four to draw up a plan of union with the "Albright's People," to be laid before the next conference.

The most unique event of all, (one that seems to have been overlooked by the writers on vital matters pertaining to our denomination and conference), that transpired at the house of Christian Herr, was the forming of a class of members. The direct quotation from

the Journal recording the action, follows: "16th—(Sept. 1816) I lodged with Chr. Herr. 17th—I preached here from 2d. Corinth. 5, v. 21, 22, formed a class of eight members."²⁰ Comment on this event will appear in another place in this volume, suffice it to say here that so far as there is any record, this is the first class ever formed east of the Susquehanna River.

The intermarriages of Hersheys and Herrs form so intricate a web that no attempt will be made to unravel it here. But several family connections will be given here in order to identify certain individuals and to show that the United Brethren doctrine laid hold on them and spread through them. It so happens that the mother of Christian Herr was a Hershey, that Christian Herr married a Hershey, and that his daughter Mary married a Hershey. The parents of Christian Herr (cir. 1742-1828) were David Herr and Barbara Hershey. His mother, Barbara Hershey was a sister to Abraham Hershey Sr., father of the two brother preachers. His contribution to the church is recited in the preceeding section. Esther Hershey, sister to Barbara, married Henry Herr. The Herr families at Annville and Harrisburg are of their descendants. Christian Herr, who heads this section, married Mary Hershey, and their daughter Mary Herr married the Reverend Abraham Hershey, (1774-1839).

David Herr (1722-1771) and wife Barbara Hershey had another son, by name, Abraham (1751-1823), who supported the work of the United Brethren in Manor Township. He lived about a mile west of Millersville, a short distance south of the Blue Rock Road. The house on this farm was erected by his parents. On the east wall of the house there is a small stone bearing the initials of the parents and the year built: "D. H.—B. H.—1764." Newcomer has on record eighteen instances of either preaching or lodging at the house of Abraham Herr. It was a regular appointment for preaching. There is record of four Sacramental Meetings held on his farm.

Under some miscellaneous items, Spayth quotes a letter he received from a friend which reveals something of the character and standing of Abraham Herr. It is as follows:

An acquaintance of mine by the name of Abraham Herr, in Lancaster County, became a subject of God's renewing grace. Being a man of considerable wealth, having several large farms to cultivate, and a distillery on an extensive scale in operation; and seeing the sin connected with the distillation and traffic of the poison, he set about the good work of converting the still-house into a house of worship. Near the spot where the kettles stood, he has a pulpit erected, in which the word of life is declared to many who attend the meetings.²¹

Isaac Long. How frequently Great Meetings were held on the Isaac Long place following that of the year 1767 no one can say. Thirty-two years later one was held which might well be recognized as a great anniversary occasion. The greatest array of church fathers

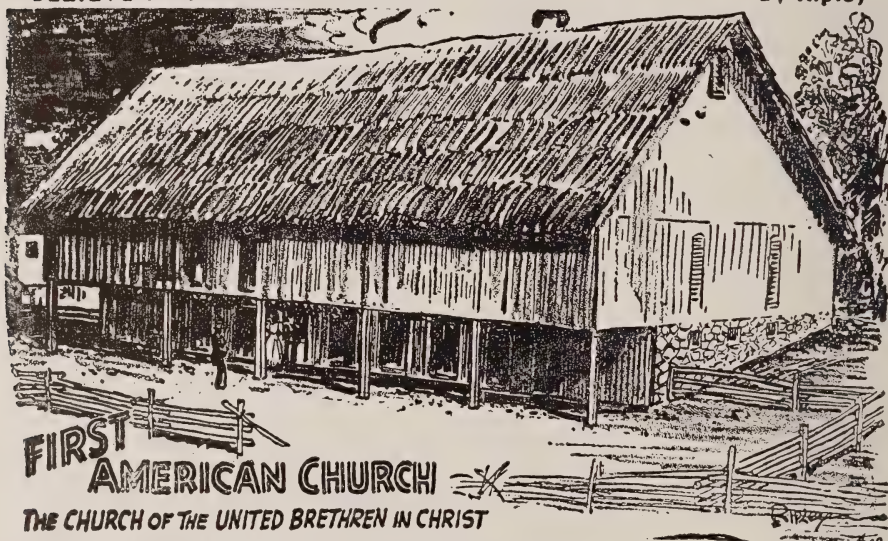
ever to assemble at such a gathering were present. They were: Christian Newcomer, Christian Crum, Martin Boehm, John George Pfrimmer, John Neidig, Christopher Grosh, Martin Kreider, and Martin Shuey. It must indeed have been a memorable occasion. That after thirty-two years father Boehm could return and live over again the thrilling moment of his fraternal embrace with Otterbein, was probably one of the richest experiences of his long and notable career. Isaac Long, we may be sure, was also present at the first meeting, and now on this anniversary.

24 TIMES-HERALD

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1946

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

By Ripley


**FIRST
AMERICAN CHURCH**
THE CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
- FIRST AMERICAN BORN DENOMINATION-WAS ORGANIZED
IN THE BARN OF ISAAC LANG-NEAR LANCASTER, PA. IN 1766
THE BARN IS STILL STANDING

 (Used by permission of Ripley's "Believe It or Not, Inc.,"
"King Features Syndicate, Inc.")

They met on Saturday, June 1. Pfrimmer preached the first discourse, others followed him. The evening service was held at the home of Abraham Hershey Sr., three miles to the southward. There they had a soul-refreshing time. On Sunday morning they met again at Isaac Long's. The congregation was very numerous. In the morning they had a Love Feast, then Newcomer and Boehm preached. After the sermons, they observed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In the afternoon Neidig and Pfrimmer preached.

The history-making event which took place at the home of Isaac Long has filled many a page in our denominational and conference histories. In the intervening years there have been organized pil-

grimages to this as yet unmarked shrine of the spiritual birth of the United Brethren in Christ Church. Numerous smaller groups and individuals have journeyed to it from far and near to pay homage to the devoted brethren who met there, and, there raised the watchword of the first American-born denomination.

Some further remarks on the Long family and this hallowed spot appear to be in order. The Long farm lies off the beaten path of the tourist. It is located in Manheim Township, four miles northeast of Lancaster City, by direct line. To reach it one leaves the city limits over the Lancaster-Reading Road (State Highway Route No. 422), to Landis Valley, leaving Route 422 at that point and continuing straight ahead about a mile. Taking the first road (a private road) branching off to the right will bring one to the buildings. There are two groups of farm buildings at the terminus of the private road. The buildings at the extreme right are those in which our interest centers.

John Long, father of Isaac was the original owner. He secured 325 acres from the Penn's. Upon his death in 1767, Isaac became owner of that part of the farm where the historic buildings are located. Isaac lived there until his demise in 1803. The buildings are today in an excellent state of preservation. The east side of the house is still covered with old style earthen tiles instead of shingles. Every rafter, joist and beam was a tree, cut on the farm, and hewn by hand, no sawed timber or lumber was used. The original section of the barn was built by John (Hannes) Long and wife, Anna, in 1754.²² The main building, original and later addition is 110 by 32 feet. In 1866, a storm blew down the straw roof which was the last of its kind in Manheim Township. The present owner is Henry H. Landis and the farm is tenanted by his son, Jacob B. Landis.

John Long had six sons and four daughters. Sons John, Isaac and Benjamin inherited the father's lands located in Manheim Township; sons, Joseph, Christian, and Abraham, the lands located along the Little Chiques Creek, in the vicinity of Lancaster Junction, in Penn Township. The United Brethren, in the early years of the 19th century, held services at the homes of Benjamin, Christian, Joseph and David Long. David Long (1771-1859), son of Abraham, and grandson of Hans, is the one who married Catharine Hershey, and who moved to Pfautz's Valley. He is the only member of the family to enter the ministry of the United Brethren.

John Christian Smith. Here is another unknown and unsung hero of the Church and of East Pennsylvania Conference. He was born in West Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, January 11, 1774. In his early years the family moved to Augusta County, Virginia. He embraced religion there in his twentieth year, and the same year first preached in a Lutheran Church. Not many years thereafter he returned to the vicinity of his birth, near Ironville, and resided there the remainder of his life.

He began preaching for the United Brethren in 1804. From 1807

onward he was a fairly regular attendant at annual conference sessions. He traveled the Lancaster Circuit in the year 1833-34 under conference appointment, otherwise his ministry was in capacity of a local elder. As such he preached over widely scattered areas. June 5, 1808 finds him in a Great Meeting on the Antietam. At another time, June 16, 1811, he takes part in a similar meeting at Ludwig Shuey's in Augusta County, Va., where he preaches with great power. On August 23, 1819, he is found preaching at Yost Kneji's in Cumberland County. He made frequent visits to New York, Ohio, and Canada. His son, Christian settled in Erie County, New York. His son, Gideon preached periodically in Pennsylvania, in New York, and in Canada.

The Reverend Smith was a fine classical scholar. He could converse in English, German, and Latin. We have in our custody a German sermon outline prepared by him—the only one of its kind ever to come to our notice. It shows that he made very careful preparation for sermon delivery.

In seeking to locate the exact place of his residence, we found considerably more than we were seeking. The search brought to light not only the place of his residence, but also the Bible he used, a Discipline with his name written in it, a sermon outline, and a partly written will. These articles were in the home of Mr. John A. Fox, member of the church at Ironville, and present owner of the farm where the Reverend Smith lived. It is within a half mile north-westerly of the village of Ironville.

The Bible, a very large volume, is indeed a treasure in booklore. Its text is in the Swiss dialect of the German language. There are no verse divisions. The translation was made from the Latin text by the Zurich Reformers. It was printed in Zurich by Christopher Froschauer in the year 1539. It was first the precious possession of Hans Beitler, then came into the hands of Jacob Beitler, who makes special bequest of his "Great Bible" in his will. Anna Beitler, who married a Mr. Musser, was its next owner. How Reverend Smith came by it we cannot say.

Rev. John Christian Smith and wife, Mary, are buried in the cemetery at Silver Springs. He died in 1860 at the age of 86 years, 7 months, and 27 days. He outlived all his early contemporaries in the gospel ministry. He saw the number of conferences increase from one to twenty-eight, and the church membership reach approximately 62,000 in number.

John Adam Riegel was born September 7, 1754, the son of John and Catharine Elizabeth Riegel, and was baptized by the minister of the Host Reformed Church, Tulpehocken Township, Berks County. When his name first enters United Brethren history, he lived within two miles northeast of Ephrata. He was the owner of several small tracts of land and a grist mill located on Cocalico Creek. He came to this region from Bethel Township, Berks County, in 1786. The farm of Jacob Albright, founder of the Evangelical Association, lay

three and one-half miles to the southeast of Riegel's mill. These two men had intimate spiritual relations. The evangelical movement influenced both, and they in turn became promoters of the same, Riegel casting his lot with the United Ministers.

The very first resolution in the minutes of the organization conference held in 1800 is as follows: "Resolved that two preachers shall go to Shamokin²³ and investigate whether D. Aurand²⁴ shall baptize and administer the Lord's Supper." In carrying out this resolution, Christian Newcomer and Adam Riegel²⁵ set out for Buffalo Valley, the region of Aurand's residence. Here, then, is evidence that Adam Riegel was a minister in 1800, and that he held a place of trust among his brethren.

The Reverend Riegel moved to Derry Township about the year 1805, in the vicinity of Hummelstown. His home on the Swatara was a preaching appointment for the traveling preachers. He continued his relation to the church and the conference until his death, August 2, 1822. His body rests in the cemetery at Hummelstown. His name was among the honored pioneers, whose names are recorded as ministers in full standing in the year 1812. His daughter Sarah married Abraham Light, Jr., of Lebanon, one of the trustees for the Light's Meetinghouse.

John George Pfrimmer was another very influential character whose ministry began in eastern Pennsylvania, then later continued beyond its bounds. He was born in the Province of Alsace, France, July 24, 1762, came to Pennsylvania in 1788, and settled in Tulpehocken Township, Berks County. By 1791 he had moved to Harrisburg, and was associated with our pioneers. He took a very active part in Great Meetings during the latter part of the last decade of that century. In 1800 he was present at the first formal conference, held at the Kemp home near Frederick City, Maryland.

The Reverend Pfrimmer was well educated, and his work shows that he used his early training to good advantage. It may be of seeming insignificance to note that when the German Reformed and the Evangelical Lutheran jointly erected a school building in Harrisburg in 1791, he donated a day's labor. But this shows where his interests lay. Newcomer came to Pfrimmer's house in Harrisburg on several occasions. We quote an item from the Journal to show that he not only had a desire that children might receive proper instruction with a view to conversion but that he did something about it. The item is as follows:

21st (May, 1800)—Today I came to Br. Fremmer's; about thirty children had assembled at his house, to whom he was giving religious instruction; some were under conviction. I also spoke to them; their hearts were sensibly touched; may the Lord convert them truly.

This position of his, a belief in Christian nurture for children and the practice of the same, may have been the cause for a disaffection between him and his brethren. He did not attend the conference of

1801, but wrote a letter to conference. Conference decided not to send a reply. In 1802, the conference wrote him, saying that for the present they would not have anything to do with him.

What happened between the sessions of 1802 and 1805, the records do not show. In 1805, they again gave him permission to preach. In the meantime, he had become active in the work of evangelism in western Pennsylvania and had moved to Washington County. The year 1808 finds him located in Harrison County, Indiana, near Corydon.²⁶ At Corydon he established, in 1820, the first Sunday School in our denomination.

From 1814 onward to his death he was a member of Miami Conference. That Conference formally ordained him in 1815. In 1824 he returned for a visit to the Original Conference. It was held in Showman's Church, Washington County, Maryland. The brethren accorded him, as it would seem now, unusual courtesies. He acted as one of the conference secretaries, was appointed on a committee to reply to letters, and preached the ordination sermon, using as his text, Romans chapter twelve, verse twelve. The following year, on September 25, he died.

Joseph Yordy was born in Lancaster County about the year 1770. His name is on our conference roll from 1811 to 1850. He was a frequent attendant at conference sessions. He preached locally. The conference of 1850 granted him a transfer to Iowa Conference. He was among the passengers of the "Belle of the West," which met with disaster and the Reverend Yordy lost nearly all his possessions. Early in the year of 1851, he died, in Iowa. He had probably not lifted his transfer, inasmuch as the minutes of 1851 make note of his passing. There has been considerable confusion in the spelling of his name. The minutes, during his period, being for the most part written in German, have it most frequently, "Jordy."

Joseph Weidman. The early missionary efforts extended eastward into Berks County, as far as Sinking Spring. Two Great Meetings were held at or near Sinking Spring in the years 1796 and 1797 respectively. About four miles southeastwardly lived Joseph Weidman in Brecknock Township. His family came into the United Brethren fold and meetings were held at his house. He was a member of annual conference from about 1832 to 1850. He and his wife, Susan Hoffer who was a native of Germany, had a family of four sons and five daughters. Daniel, the oldest son went across the country to Earl Township and married a daughter of Reverend Christopher Grosh. The youngest son, Solomon (1807-1871), moved to Spring Township, in 1833, about a mile north of Sinking Spring. He received annual conference license in 1851. Solomon's son, Benneville (1833-1922), was very active locally, as were many other members of the Joseph Weidman family, in the church at Sinking Spring. Benneville Weidman was also a member of annual conference.

David Gingrich Sr. was a minister of the church for more than fifty years. He was in full ministerial standing by the year 1812. His ministerial service was to the people of upper Lancaster County and lower Dauphin County. He was born November 22, 1768 and died December 4, 1849. In his mature years, he lived in Londonderry Township, Dauphin County, near Geyer's or Hillsdale Church, which when organized was known as Gingrich's Church. His son, David Gingrich, (1802-1874), received annual license in 1833 and was ordained in 1835. His name appears as an appointee of annual conference to a number of charges.

George Geyer Sr., (1777-1859) lived in the vicinity of Mt. Joy, Lancaster County. Being converted in his seventeenth year, he was one of the early fruits of United Brethren preaching in that neighborhood. His name first appears on the conference roll in 1833. He attended annual sessions whenever possible, but he was never an appointed itinerant. His son, George, had connections with the work at Florin, Eby's, and Mt. Joy. Rev. Harvey K. Geyer is a grandson of George Jr.

Foundation Stones for a New Spiritual Building

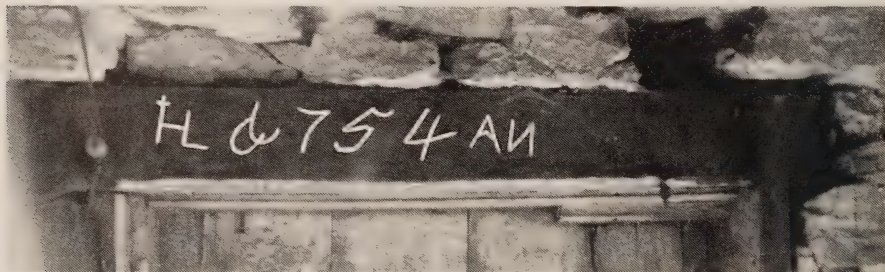
These then are the reformers whose names are ever dear to us. The total span of years covered, by the lives of these twenty-two men, from the birth of Martin Boehm to the death of John Christian Smith, number one hundred and thirty-five. Ninety-three years of United Brethren History were in the making while they lived. All of the twenty-two were born before Otterbein or Boehm had reached their fifty-second birthday. All had seen either Otterbein or Boehm, most of them, if not all had heard them preach. Newcomer must have been known to them. He mentions them all by name, except two. It is a matter of record that he was in the home of each, except these two.

Here are the foundation stones for a United Brethren superstructure. They represented diverse elements. There were diversities of viewpoint. But the Church of the United Brethren in Christ was not a gathering together of alienated and disgruntled elements from other fellowships. It was only natural that varying backgrounds of spiritual and cultural heritage should influence them in their newer associations. However, in the laboratory of spiritual experimentation they arrived at a common understanding. It would hardly be correct to say that these evangelical reformers had no shortcomings. To portray them as men without imperfections would be contrary to the facts of history. The reformer, in his zeal for the cause he espouses, sometimes, by the nature of the circumstances involved, denies himself of the use of tremendously valuable means to a good end; though sincere, he may sometimes err. But unity was achieved against all odds, within and without the new body. Their prayers, their experiences, their tears of joy and of sorrow, fused into a

Christian fellowship which bound their hearts as with bands of steel. In purpose also they were united. They set out to win their children, their neighbors, and their kin in distant parts, from sin unto salvation, from death to life. They were in essence and in conquest, United Brethren in Christ. They deserved to be called an American-born Church.

Notes

1. Grosch was also an exception, having been formerly a Moravian.
2. See Drury, p. 103.
3. The immigrant ancestor wrote, "Dracksel;" the Conf. Min. have it "Dracksel;" descendants in Westmoreland use "Truxel" and "Truxal."
4. Strassburger-Hincke—*Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, Intro. p. xxx; and main text, pp. 273-274.
5. See sketch of Martin Boehm, p. 15.
6. Spayth, pp. 160-161.
7. Lawrence, pp. 267-270.
8. In the early legal records the family name is spelled a great variety of ways. In our area "Kreider" predominates; in Franklin County, "Crider."
9. Section by Dr. Brane, LM., p. 207.
10. LM., p. 207.
11. Kephart, I. L., Ed., *Biography of Rev. J. S. Kessler*, p. 37.
12. *Religious Telescope*, issue March 31, 1841.
13. Kephart, I. L., Ed., *Life of J. S. Kessler*, p. 122.
14. *Religious Telescope*, issue, Feb. 20, 1846.
15. *Life of J. S. Kessler*, p. 123.
16. Egle's Notes and Queries, 3rd Ser., Vol. 11, p. 391 ff. gives an account of the Neidig family which is in error on several points. It states that the parents of John Neidig were Adam and Anna Neidig, and that son John was born in the Tulpehocken Settlement. The land record (Deed 8-257, Berks County) definitely shows the facts set forth above. Additional authentic information having to do with the movements and connections of the Neidig family has been gathered from the land transfer records in the Lancaster and the Dauphin Register's Offices, respectively; and from tax assessment lists published in the Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd Ser., Vol. XVII.
17. Spayth, p. 72.
18. *Religious Telescope*, issue, Jan. 15, 1844.
19. Schaff, Dr. I. James, *The Pennsylvania German*, Vol. XI, No. 10, p. 617.
20. NJ p. 245.
21. Spayth, p. 242.
22. The lintel above the first stable door, north end, has the following inscription:



- The interpretation of it is: Built by Hannes (John) Long—A.D. 1754—and wife, Anna.
23. We remind our readers that Shamokin was the name for a large community extending both east and west of the Susquehanna, about the present Sunbury.
 24. See other references to "Aurand."
 25. Both the baptismal record and the tombstone inscription give the name as John Adam Reigel, though all other references consulted have Adam Riegel.
 26. For the later activities of this remarkable man see Drury, pp. 309, 652 ff.

Chapter IV

FORMATIVE PERIOD OF THE LANCASTER DISTRICT

The dominant thought in the minds of our church fathers was to evangelize, not to organize. Having made converts, they knew that their converts needed shepherding care, organization followed as a natural sequence. Otterbein's practice of calling together his co-laborers for counsel, first at Pipe Creek in 1774, then at his parsonage in Baltimore, and finally at the Kemp home near Frederick, Maryland, gave rise to a conference organization. At the same time there were in the making local groups, called societies, (Gemeinden). Increase in size and number of those societies made necessary the organization of classes and circuits. These were some of the factors and steps in a developing church order. Before proceeding with a detailed discussion of the matter of organization, we have to give some attention to the matter of how a constituency was created.

The Great Meetings

We of the present day are apt to think that our denomination in general, and our conference in particular, had its beginning by evangelistic effort through the small group. That was not so in origin, it was so in development. The medium of spreading the Gospel having begun in a Great Meeting, (Grosse Versammlung), so continued. This gave opportunity for the preacher to become known to and accepted by a great number of people scattered over wide geographical areas. It also resulted in many converts. Spayth puts it very well, when he says:

The holding of these meetings formed another link in the chain of reformation. It was a new measure, but one which was productive of much good, and resulted in the best of consequences. They afforded an enlarged field of action, and a wider spread of the knowledge of true religion, and a fit opportunity to enforce the practice of its moral precepts. Hundreds, and we may say thousands, by these means came to hear, who in the ordinary way of holding religious or divine worship, would not have been brought under the saving influence of this dispensation of life. Prejudices which had taken possession of the minds of many, accompanied by a sectarian spirit, were thereby more or less removed and shorn of their strength, and the best of all was, many experienced a change of heart.¹

The significance of the Great Meetings, in our formative period as a conference, will become all the more apparent when we make a careful study of them. Christian Newcomer mentions fifty such

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

meetings held east of the Susquehanna during the period, 1796-1824. In order to fix attention upon certain personalities and localities, numerous references to such meetings have already been made. For a complete picture of their import, all are here listed:

Date		Place	Ministers Present
1796			
Apr. 23-25	S.M. ²	Sinking Spring, Berks Co.	Newcomer ³ , Geeting
Apr. 30-May 2	Q.M.	Abr. Draksel's, Leb. Co.	Geeting, Boehm, Draksel
1797			
May 6-8	3-day	Peter Kober's, Berks Co.	Geeting, Crum, two others
May 13-15	G.M.	Sinking Spring, Berks Co.	Draksel, Pfrimmer, Crum
May 20-22	3-day	A. R.'s, Lanc. Co. (Abr. Rohrer)	Crum and others
May 27-29	S.M.	Martin Kreider's, Leb. Co.	Boehm, Crum, Kreider
Oct. 14-16	3-day	Martin Boehm's, Lanc. Co.	Pfrimmer, Geeting
1798			
June 2-4	G.M.	Peter Ewi's, Lanc. Co. (Eby)	Neidig, Geeting
June 9-11	G.M.	Lebanon, Leb. Co.	Geeting, Strickler, Kreider
1799			
May 18-20	Q.M.	Nafzinger's, Leb. Co.	Boehm, Kreider, Draksel
May 21-22	2-day	John Zeller's, Berks Co.	Crum, Kreider, Boehm
May 25-26	2-day	Kreiner's, Dauph. Co.	Pfrimmer, Crum
June 1-2	S.M.	Isaac Long's	Crum, Boehm, Pfrim- mer, Neidig, Grosh, Kreider, Shuey
1800			
June 7-9	G.M.	A. Kauffman's, Lanc. Co.	Draksel, Pfrimmer, Neidig
Oct. 11-13	S.M.	Zeller's, Berks Co.	Riegle, Geeting
1801			
May 30-June 1	S.M.	Christian Herr's, Lanc. Co.	Pfrimmer, Dimen, Henry Boehm
June 6-8	S.M.	Draksel's, Leb. Co.	Boehm
Oct. 10-12	S.M.	Fleisher's, Dauph. Co.	Strickler
Oct. 17-19	G.M.	Boehm's, Lanc. Co.	Strickler, Boehm, Neidig
1802			
May 15-17	S.M.	Abr. Herr's, Lanc. Co.	Chr. Hershey
May 22-24	S.M.	Zeller's, Berks Co.	Strickler, Grosh, Boehm
May 26-28	S.M.	Mercer's, Dauph. Co.	Long, Boehm, Neidig
1803			
May 14-16	S.M.	Chr. Grosh, Lanc. Co.	Draksel, Boehm, Grosch
May 21-23	Q.M.	Meyer's, Leb. Co.	Neidig, Draksel
Oct. 15-16	S.M.	Buck's, Berks Co.	Geeting, and others
Oct. 24-25	Q.M.	Boehm's, Lanc. Co. (Chapel)	Geeting
1805			
June 8-10	S.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	John Hershey, Chr. Hershey
June 15-17	S.M.	Jacob Shelly's, Lanc. Co.	John Hershey, Boehm
1806			
May 30-June 2	Q.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	Jos. Hoffman, Neidig, Albright

FORMATIVE PERIOD OF THE LANCASTER DISTRICT

Date		Place	Ministers Present
June 7-8	Q.M.	J. Shelly's, Lanc. Co.	Boehm, Grosch, Neidig, Albright, Geeting
1807			
May 16-18	S.M.	Abr. Herr's, Lanc. Co.	Geeting, and others
1808			
May 14-15	S.M.	Chr. Herr's, Lanc. Co.	Geeting
May 17-18	S.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	Geeting
Aug. 20-21	S.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	Geeting
1809			
May 6-7	S.M.	Felix Light's, Leb. Co.	Bortsfeld, Draksel, Hoffman
May 13-14	S.M.	Abr. Herr's, Lanc. Co.	Geeting
1810			
May 26-27	S.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	Grosch, Light, Neidig
1811			
May 11-12	S.M.	Donner's, Lanc. Co. (Dohner)	Hoffman, Kessler
May 17-19	S.M.	David Long's, Lanc. Co.	Hoffman, Kessler
1812			
May 5-6	S.M.	John Neidig, Dauph. Co.	
1813			
May 8-9	S.M.	Abr. Herr, Lanc. Co.	Jacob Baulus
May 12-13	S.M.	Jacob Shelly's, Lanc. Co.	
1817			
Oct. 25-27	S.M.	Christian Herr's, Lanc. Co.	
1818			
May 9-10	S.M.	Chr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	
Sept. 26-28	S.M.	Chr. Haag, Dauph. Co. (nr. Hbg.)	Chr. Hershey
Oct. 3-4	S.M.	Abr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	
Oct. 31-Nov. 1	S.M.	Daniel Fleiser's, Dauph. Co.	
1819			
Oct. 30-31	S.M.	Abr. Hershey's, Lanc. Co.	
1821			
Nov. 3-4	S.M.	Christian Herr's, Lanc. Co.	
1824			
Sept. 4-5	S.M.	Henry Smith, Dauph. Co.	

The reader will notice no meetings listed for certain years, also that as many as five were held in a single year. Considering these and other known facts concerning the holding of such meetings, it may not be an overstatement to say that several hundreds of meetings were held during the period. Nor did the practice cease at that time. In some localities they were continued up to very recent times. So much then for their importance as concerns the number held.

The entire field of operation was covered. This also added to the thoroughness of this type of evangelism. The residences, whose locations are uncertain, are Abraham Rohrer's, West Lampeter Township, Lancaster County; Peter Eby's, Warwick Township; Nafzinger's, along Gravel Hill road, near Palmyra; Kreiner's, near Hummelstown; Henry Smith's near Hummelstown; Jacob Shelly's, a few miles northwest of Lancaster; and Peter Kober's, east of the Shuylkill, in Berks County. Others held, where family name only is given, the location cannot be definitely determined.

Much in evidence, in these meetings, was God's blessing in regenerating and refreshing power. Comments appearing in the Jour-

nal are as follows: "The Lord was present in His saving power; there was a great collection of people from far and near; many of them felt the spirit of God striving powerfully with their souls." "The Lord put forth his power, many were convinced of their lost condition, and strove in agony for mercy, until they found redemption in the blood of the Lamb."

The fraternal fellowship was refreshing. Preachers of other connections attended and preached in our meetings; the Methodists, Dimen and Henry Boehm, (son of Reverend Martin), were present at Christian Herr's; Albright the Evangelical, was at Christian Hershey's and Jacob Shelly's.

The varied names given to these meetings tends to confusion as to their purpose and nature. Apparently, without intent to distinguish between them, they were called Great Meetings, Sacramental Meetings, Quarterly Meetings, Three-day or Two-day meetings. Whatever the designation, in the majority of cases, they followed the same pattern. That a Quarterly Meeting should be held before our church leaders were organized into a conference body, may be somewhat surprising. On April 30, 1796, for instance: "Our Quarterly Meeting Commenced." The explanation lies in the fact that the procedure of examining preachers and granting licenses, and of reviewing the work of the societies were features of the Great Meeting as they were of the smaller preachers' conferences begun at Pipe Creek and later continued at the yearly meetings. This pattern was set up by the Methodists beginning with the year 1772. During Christmas week of that year, Francis Asbury held the first quarterly on record. The following propositions were considered:

1. What are our collections? 2. How are our preachers stationed? (Here follows the assignment of six preachers).
3. Shall we be strict in our society meetings and not admit strangers? (Agreed).
4. Shall we drop preaching in the daytime during the week? (Not agreed to).
5. Will the people be contented without administering the sacrament? (Discussions, pro and con).⁴

It is not inferred here that in our quarterlies, the answers would be the same, nor even that the propositions would be the same. What is intended is to show the origin and usage of the term, "quarterly meeting" and to point out that the Great Meeting had, at times, at least, a business or counseling period connected with it. Its introduction is one of the steps taken in the developing of our church policy.

In giving an account of the Great Meeting there is frequent mention of holding a Love Feast. Did this follow the practice of the Moravians—a fellowship in the breaking of bread? We think not. Spayth described this part of the service, thus: "These love-feasts in the early days of the rise of the church, were peculiar to the time, and characteristic of the progress of a glorious reformation.

In those love-feasts, the Dunkard, the Mennonite, and the high churchman, were alternately seen to rise and tell their christian experience. The simplicity, the earnestness with which this testimony was delivered, could not fail to carry conviction with it." ⁵ The Love Feast according to this statement was what we would call an experience meeting.

The observing of the Sacrament of Holy Communion either on Sunday or on Monday, was also a prevailing practice. It is stated that, "on the Sabbath day, the concourse of people was frequently such, as to render the administration of the Holy Sacrament on that day impracticable. When this was the case, the love-feast and the sacrament were held on Monday."⁶ The Scotch Covenanters held a two-day meeting of which the Holy Communion Service was the main feature. The members of the entire fellowship would come together in one place from their settlements. Such a meeting was held at New Kingston, Cumberland County, August 23, 1752.⁷

There are very interesting sidelights on the Great Meeting. Samuel Huber gives a vivid account on the entertainment and arrangement for the same. It was no uncommon thing for a brother farmer to give out an appointment for a big meeting to be held at his house. It was expected as a matter of course, that the people attending should have something to eat while there. It was not considered a strange thing for a brother at whose house the meeting was held to slaughter a few hogs, sheep or calves, and on extra occasion, a beef; and to have a quantity of bread, cakes and pies baked, with bushels of potatoes and other vegetables ready for use.

In addition to these preparations, one indispensable item for such an occasion, was a large table, from ten to twenty feet in length, and from four to five feet in breadth. The top of it was made of good old tough oak or pine boards, from one to two inches in thickness. These were placed upon a frame, supported by feet made of oak or pine scantling, from three to four inches square. This table was then decorated with pewter and earthen dishes, with cups and saucers of the latter material, pewter spoons, iron knives and forks; together with large pewter and earthen dishes and bowls, which were placed on the center.

These big meetings were attended by crowds of people. Some came from great distance. The hosts were not scared, when they saw carriages, wagons, vehicles, of all sizes, then in use, drawn by four-legged animals and loaded with saints and sinners coming to the meetings. Some came to see and be seen; others to hear preaching. In many instances, from one to two hundred persons were entertained and fed during the meeting, together with their horses. At the meeting at Daniel Whisler's before referred to, upwards of four hundred persons took dinner at his house on the Sabbath. ⁸

Camp Meetings

Multitudes were brought under the sound of the Gospel by the Camp Meetings, (Lager Versammlungen). Newcomer attended such meetings conducted by the Methodists years before there were strictly United Brethren Camp Meetings. Announcement of one to be held at the home of Martin Boehm, August 9, 1810, appeared in a Lancaster newspaper. The first held by the United Brethren was at Rocky Springs near the home of Reverend Samuel Huber, August 16-21, 1810. Previously we made mention of one held at Felix Light's, September 1-6, 1825. Of the Rocky Springs meeting, Newcomer wrote:

The Lord was truly in the camp. (Sunday), we had particularly a blessed time; a vast concourse of people were assembled, many were the slain of the Lord, many were happily converted, and enabled to return home rejoicing in God their Saviour: glory, honor, and praise be unto God and the Lamb forever.

From season to season camp meetings increased in numbers until every charge or circuit had one, and some more than one. Meetings planned for the Lebanon district, season of 1841, as announced through the columns of the Religious Telescope, were as follows:

1. On Lancaster Circuit, two miles east of New Holland, June 7; 2. On Dauphin Circuit, on the land of Samuel Neidig, August 9; 3. On Lebanon Circuit, one mile northwest of Lebanon, August 16; 4. On the land of John Hossler, three miles east of Mt. Joy, August 20; 5. On land of David Nace, near Halifax, August 27.⁹

Four years later, the schedule of Camp Meetings for the Susquehanna District was as follows:

1. Halifax Circuit, on the land of Bro. Enders, about four miles east of Halifax, August 8; 2. Dauphin Circuit, on the land of Bro. J. Hoover, about three miles north of Hummels-town, August 18; 3. Lancaster Circuit, on the land of Bro. Geyer, near Springville, (Florin), August 25.⁹

The account of the meeting held on the Halifax Circuit beginning October 11, 1841, will appear under that circuit. Quarterly meetings, though of a more restricted nature, were held in connection with the Camp Meeting, as with the Great Meeting. The quarterly conference records of the several charges show the presiding elder would hold such a meeting at the time. A committee on place and arrangements was appointed for the circuit at a preceding quarterly. Camp Meetings held subsequently to this period will receive recognition later in this volume.

Thus we see how large a place these two types of mass meetings held in reaching the unconverted and nurturing the believers.

Appointments and Classes

Out of the larger contact through the medium of Great Meetings the smaller groups developed. The United Ministers made appointments wherever they could. Almost a half century passed, following the Isaac Long meetings, before there was a single house of worship owned by our brethren. Services were held in private homes, in barns, in schoolhouses, in courthouses, and in groves. The time and place of meeting were arranged for in advance, or the group was hastily gathered after the preacher had arrived. An example of the latter is related by Kephart:

In these early days the pioneer United Brethren preachers "from across the mountains" found their way into this wilderness, and there being no schoolhouse or church, "Grandfather Goss," and later the writer's father, opened their cabins, accorded the preacher a hearty welcome, lodged him, and gladly shared with him the best of their homely fare. On his arrival the boys were sent around to the neighbors to inform them that there would be preaching that night. In due time the cabin would be crowded with ten or a dozen neighbors, and the preacher would preach, and after preaching spend an hour in prayer, exhortation, and "experience meeting."¹⁰

In its technical sense a "class" consisted of a group of persons who had taken the vows of the church, and had their names entered upon a roll. The word, "class," however, was commonly used in a loose sense. The organization of classes was a slow development. Otterbein, in his later years, remarked that he wished he had paid more attention to the organizing of classes. He was not adverse to it, he simply did not, in the earlier years, realize its importance. The Mennonite element, for the most part, was opposed to organization of classes, or anything that smacked of church rules or church discipline. When Jacob Erb approached the matter of organizing a class at Shirk's Church, he "first sought the approval of Felix Light, who was looked up to as almost having the authority of a Bishop in his part of the country."¹¹

There are no statistical reports in conference minutes on classes nor membership prior to 1848. In the 1850-report a distinction is made between appointments and classes. The distinction being, that a class is an organized group, an appointment an unorganized group. Some congregations, then as now, grouped the membership in several classes.

In this volume, the word "class" will be used in preference to the word "church" as long as the congregation is without a church building.

Circuits and Ministerial Service

During the early years of our denominational organization, the dividing of territory into precisely defined circuits and the appointing of ministers, did not follow the strict order to which we are now

accustomed. Furthermore, the brevity of the minutes leave the impression that many acts of conference regarding these matters remain unrecorded. There are no reports to show how or when a circuit was constituted. Knowledge of the existence of a circuit, or of a class, comes to us only as mention may be made of them in scattered items in the body of the minutes, or when they first appear on the list of appointments made by conference. Such a list first appears in the minutes of the year 1815. From that time forward to 1831, such lists are missing for the years: 1821, 1823, 1825 (November session), 1826, 1829, and 1830. Financial accounts, showing the amount of money received from the circuits and salaries paid to ministers, first appear for the year 1815-16. They are not of very great value in checking on the matter of appointments made because the name of the minister does not, as a rule, stand opposite the name of the circuit, or charge, to which he was appointed at the beginning of a current year.

There are no boundary committee reports prior to the year 1849. Even then the classes or churches composing a circuit, with but two exceptions, are not given—only the changes made on the previous year's status are noted. Statistics for a local church, by which one might check as to the composition of the charge, do not appear until the year 1921. From 1831 onward the list of charges and ministerial appointees appear regularly. Presiding elder reports, statistical reports, quarterly conference minutes, etc., have been examined to note changes in pastoral supply occurring in the interim of conference sessions.

Every ministerial appointment made by church authorities will be given. To save much space and many repetitions, the appointee's name appears under the charge only. Attachment of a local class or church to a circuit will be given under the sketch of the church. The name of the minister who served a local church while attached to a circuit can be ascertained by referring to the circuit with which it is affiliated.

The designations: station, mission station, mission, were used rather indiscriminately. It would require the mind of a Solomon to formulate a definition that would fit every case, as these designations were used. So, in this volume, no distinctions will be made, except where they may be in order.

The Lancaster Circuit 1800-1831

Inasmuch as the Lancaster Circuit embraced all the territory out of which all subsequent circuits, east of the Susquehanna, were formed, it will be the starting point for a treatise on particular circuits and individual churches. Major divisions were made from time to time, forming circuits which, in the main, correspond geographically to the counties after which they were named. It had an uninterrupted existence in some form or other, for sixty-eight years. After being off the list of appointments for a brief time it again appeared intermittently until final dissolution in 1896.

From 1800 to 1831 there was but one circuit or district. In 1828, it was called the Lebanon Circuit. Some estimate of the work on this circuit can be made from the biographies given in chapter III. From them a great many inferences may be drawn and private conclusions reached. The conference records contain only fragmentary information. It is limited to less than a score of items having to do directly with the circuit. These deal with ministerial appointment and presiding elder supervision. There is no mention of a class, nor of members and finances. A few additional facts may be gleaned from several sources other than the conference minutes. It is deemed of sufficient importance to give, following, all the items:

Conference, Oct. 6, 1802¹²—"Resolved that Martin Boehm shall this year twice visit the congregations east of the Susquehanna."

Conference, Oct. 5, 1803—"Resolved that Martin Boehm and (Christopher) Grosch shall place the preachers in order in Pennsylvania to the honor of God and the benefit of the hearers, and the bettering of the church of God."

Conference, June 6, 1810—"Resolved that Joseph Hoffman shall serve the Lancaster Circuit, one year."

Year 1811—Henry Spayth met Joseph Hoffman on his circuit at Christian Hershey's, Lancaster County, within a month of Annual Conference. (From Spayth, p. 194)

Conference, May 13, 1812—"Resolved that brothers Neidig and Grosch shall be overseers on the north (east) side of the Susquehanna, and also to hold small conferences when necessary. If difficulties cannot be settled, the matters shall be presented to the Annual Conference."

Conference, May 24, 1814—"Resolved that Christian Hershey shall be elected presiding elder for two years over the district in his part of the country."

Conference, May 4, 1819—John Snyder, elected presiding elder, and assigned to Lancaster District.

Conference, May 2, 1820—John Neidig elected presiding elder, and assigned to Lancaster District.

Conference, April 19, 1822—Daniel Peiffer and Samuel Huber served the circuit. (From financial report, year 1822-23).

Conference, May 6, 1823—Abraham Hershey elected presiding elder.

Conference, May 6, 1823—Jacob Erb served Lancaster Circuit. (From his obituary).

Conference, May 10, 1825—Jacob Erb appointed to Lancaster Circuit.

Conference, April 5, 1826—John Neidig elected presiding elder.

Conference, April 3, 1827—John Snyder elected traveling presid-

ing elder, assigned to Lancaster District. Gideon Smith appointed to Lancaster Circuit.

Year 1827—Jacob Erb appointed to New York Mission. "During a visit to his home in Pennsylvania he organized the first class of members of the Church of the U. B. east of the Susquehanna River, at a place called Shirk's meeting house, in the northwestern part of Lebanon County, about one and one-half miles east of Grantville, Dauphin Co., Pa." (From his obituary, Min. 1884, p. 20).

Conference, April 1, 1828—John Snyder elected presiding elder. Simon Dressbach appointed to Lancaster Circuit, probably did not serve; Frederick Gilbert reports for the circuit at the end of the year. John Neidig appointed to Baltimore.

These records therefore show that ministers appointed by the conference to serve the original circuit were: Joseph Hoffman, 1810-12; Daniel Peiffer and Samuel Huber, 1821-22; Jacob Erb, 1823-24, and May 1825-November 1825; Gideon Smith, 1827-28; Simon Dressbach and Frederick Gilbert, 1828-29.

The overseers or presiding elders were: Martin Boehm, Christopher Grosh, John Neidig, Christian Hershey, John Snyder, and Abraham Hershey. All of these overseers resided in the bounds of the district except Snyder. When he was assigned to the district as presiding elder in 1819, he was at the same time appointed pastor to the Baltimore church. As presiding elder he received no remuneration. When he was assigned to the district in 1827, it was as "traveling" presiding elder. He was then paid a salary. The inference is that his status during the second term was different from that of his first term, and from that of his predecessors.

The resident presiding elders received no pay from monies reported to the conference, and it is highly probable they never received pay from any source. The resident presiding elders might be said to have been local presiding elders in contradistinction to traveling presiding elders. Few of them had ever served as itinerant preachers. They were men of deep piety, evangelical zeal, and wise counsel, being well-grounded in the faith as preached by our pioneers. The weight of domestic duties permitted only limited service to the church. These considerations were taken into account in making selections for supervisory work on the district.

The foregoing resolutions afford an opportunity to make some important observations on conference-district autonomy. They reveal that the senior elders within our district were given considerable privilege for independent action. Similar authority was delegated to elders in other districts, though not to so great an extent. By the resolution of 1803, the yearly conference virtually relinquished its appointive power as concerns the area east of the Susquehanna. The resolution of 1812 goes even beyond the resolution of 1803 in its delegated authority. It authorizes the holding of small conferences in the interim of the yearly conference. We are strongly of the opinion that such authority was exercised for a number of

years without being directed by special resolution. The great distance of travel of our men to attend the yearly conferences would be contributory to such practice. (Only four of thirty-one sessions of the Original Conference were held in our area.)

There is some evidence of independent action on the part of our district in the minutes of the first General Conference, 1815, which is: "A letter from Christopher Grosh, coming from their so-called conference was read. It is evident therefrom that they had not considered the matter of which they wrote."¹³ It is somewhat difficult, not to say delicate, to venture an interpretation of what is meant by "their so-called conference." Were small conferences held other than those authorized by the resolution of 1812? Did some brethren take the position that they constituted a conference? Perhaps both situations prevailed. Whatever view one may take, the evidence shows there was district autonomy.

The appointive power of the elders in the district resulted in setting up a schedule of preaching appointments, probably giving rise to a number of small locally prescribed circuits within the larger circuit. One may be certain that, of those who were licensed or lay preachers, some preached regularly and unceasingly in all parts of the district. Though not officially appointed by conference, they must as truly be considered ministers of the Lancaster Circuit as any who were so appointed. The free and unrestricted procedure in arranging for appointments to preach prevailed for some years after 1800 as it did before.

The Lancaster Circuit during the third decade of this period consisted of approximately thirty to forty appointments, thinly scattered over five or six counties. Our source for making the observation as to the number of appointments is the memoir of Bishop Erb. From the same source we learn that he opened an appointment toward Philadelphia during the year 1825 while in his second term of service on the circuit.

By the end of the period houses of worship had been erected as follows: Neidig's at Oberlin, Light's at Lebanon, Herr's at Annville, and Shirk's near Grantville. Well-known other preaching places, in Lancaster County were: the Abraham Hershey and Christian Herr homes in Manor Township, the Christopher Grosh home in Earl Township, the Martin Boehm home in Pequea Township, the Christian Hershey home and the Landis Schoolhouse in Manheim Township, and the George Geyer home near Florin. Preaching appointments in other counties will receive mention as the major divisions of this original circuit come under observation.

The Lancaster Circuit, 1831-1843

Three major divisions of the area covered by the original Lancaster Circuit were made during the period, 1831-1843. The Halifax or Dauphin Circuit was formed in 1831, the Lebanon Circuit in 1840, and the Schuylkill or Berks Circuit in 1843. Each of these three

circuits, broadly speaking, occupied Dauphin, Lebanon, and Berks counties, respectively.

Lancaster Circuit continued during the period and the ministers appointed, were: Gideon Smith, 1831-32; David Runk, 1832-33; John Rathfang and John Christian Smith, 1833-34; Jacob Roop and Daniel Funkhouser, 1834-35; Jacob Snyder, 1835-36; Christian Hershey, 1836-37; John Eckstein, 1837-38; Daniel Funkhouser, 1838-39; Daniel Funkhouser and Philip Fry, 1839-40; Jacob Wenger, 1840-41; J. Adam Sand, and Henry Stabley, 1841-42; Christian Peffley and Henry Esensy, 1842-43.

Notes

1. Spayth, p. 88.
2. Designations: S.M.—Sacramental Meeting; Q.M.—Quarterly Meeting.
3. Newcomer was present at each meeting, his name is not repeated.
4. Buckley—*American Church History Series*, p. 132, Vol. V.
5. Spayth, p. 88-89.
6. Ibid.
7. See Scouller—*American Church History Series*, Vol. IX, p. 152.
8. Huber—*A Biography of Samuel Huber*, p. 214 ff. The Rev. Samuel Huber became a member of the original conference in 1816, lived at Rocky Springs, Franklin County.
9. From the files of *Religious Telescope*.
10. *The Life of Ezekiel Boring Kephart*, pp. 52-53.
11. Drury, pp. 357-358. See also LM, p. 63.
12. All similar headings refer to minutes of Annual Conference—day of its opening.
13. Drury—*Minutes of United Brethren Conferences*, p. 65.

CONFERENCE STATISTICAL REPORT, YEAR 1848-1849

	Classes	Members	Salary	Missions	Bishop's Salary	New Members	Died	Removed	Benevo- lences	Ministers
Lebanon District			\$ 117.14	85.86						C. S. Crider, P. E.
Berks Co. Circuit	7	125	165.72	1.25	2.06	24	1	3		S. VonNieda
Pinegrove Mission	5	93	95.46	2.48	1.35	44		5		C. Seichrist Simon Noll
Lebanon Station	11	210	211.21	38.74	5.18	30		2	8.00	J. A. Sand
Lebanon Circuit	12	307	307.55	23.50	8.55	57		6	13.00	Chr. Peffley David Hoffman
Susquehanna District			167.42	41.90						S. Seiders, P. E.
Dauphin Circuit	14	357	263.57	28.73	5.00	61	1		3.00	David Gingrich, Jr. Henry Staub
Northumberland Mission	4	77	62.85	1.87	.68	27		1		Jacob Brewer
Lancaster Circuit	7	212	264.69	8.92	4.62	34		4	10.00	Jacob Sholler David O'Farrel
New Holland Circuit	4	122	87.81	7.00	2.25	44	1			George Gilbert
Halifax Circuit	10	279	125.59	29.39	3.65	35	1	2		Henry Shropp
Highspire Station	4	89	52.53	13.47	2.97	3			3.00	George Smith
Millheim Mission	4	74	150.60			18			1.00	John Stamm
TOTALS	82	1945	\$ 2072.14	\$ 283.11	\$ 36.31	377	5	23	\$ 38.00	

Chapter V

THE CHURCHES OF LANCASTER COUNTY

1. The Circuits of Lancaster County, 1843-1946

From the year 1843 onward the Lancaster Circuit was limited in area to Lancaster County. In the year 1846 East Pennsylvania Conference was divided off from territory of which it had been a part since the year 1800. At the same conference session (1846) a new circuit was created, called the New Holland Circuit. The first statistical report appearing in annual conference minutes is for the conference year 1848-49. Lancaster Circuit then was composed of seven organized classes having a total membership of 212. New Holland Circuit consisted of four classes having a membership of 122. Both preaching appointments and classes are listed in the report for 1850-51. Lancaster Circuit then had twenty-four appointments, eight classes, and 204 members; New Holland Circuit had eleven appointments, five classes, and ninety-six members.

The total number of circuits (sometimes called stations when in reality they were circuits), in the county for the period, 1843-1946, number thirty-nine. A certain circuit-name appears for a time, then after a lapse of years reappears under the same name, though differently constituted. When the circuits were large the usual practice was to appoint two ministers to each. The first one named was the "preacher in charge," or the senior preacher; the second named was the junior or assistant preacher. Occasionally a minister appointed by the stationing committee did not serve. Such appointments are not given in the following lists. The lists here given are of ministers who served the charge during the year-terms indicated, whether by appointment at annual conference session or in the interim of conference sessions. More than two names may appear for a given conference year because of these interim appointments.

The circuits of Lancaster County in the chronological order of their formation and the years during which they continued are: Lancaster (continued 1), 1843-68; New Holland, 1846-1946; Panna-becker's (Hopeland 1), 1855-56; Columbia (1), 1860-1869; Mountville, 1862-1887; Mt. Joy (1), 1867-1871; Florin, 1871-1946; Brunnerville (1), 1874-1875; Conestoga, 1875-1885; Intercourse, 1875-1946; Paradise (Hopeland 2), 1875-1882; Mt. Pleasant (1), 1876-1878; Lancaster (2), 1878-1881; Pequea Valley (1), 1879-1887; Manheim, 1871-1946; Quarryville, 1881-1884; Marietta (1), 1881-1882; Ephrata, 1882-1889; Paradise (Hopeland 3), 1883-1886; Mt. Pleasant (2), 1884-1888; Manor, 1885-1946; Ironville, 1887-1888; Lancaster (3), 1888-1890; Pequea (2), 1888-1946; Mt. Pleasant (3), Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; Mt. Pleasant (4), 1890-1893; Marietta (2), 1891-1895; Neffsville, 1891-1946; Chestnut Grove, 1893-

1896; Lancaster (4), 1893-1896; Mt. Joy (2), 1896-1901; Marietta (3), 1901-1903; Refton, 1901-1946; Centerville (1), 1905-1906; Centerville (2), 1907-1918; Cordelia, 1906-1907; Columbia (2), 1919-1925; Brunner-ville (2), 1924-1946; and Silver Spring, 1925-1946.

The alphabetical order of circuits, years continued, and ministerial appointments follow. These, and all similar lists, should be consulted in determining: First, to what circuit a church or class was attached; and second, in determining the name of the minister serving the individual class or church.

Brunnerville Circuit (1), 1874-75; George Shindler, 1874-75.

Brunnerville Circuit (2), 1924-46: (See under Brunnerville Church)

Centerville Circuit (1), 1905-06: Oliver Mease, 1905-06.

Centerville Circuit (2), 1907-18: Oliver Mease, 1907-09; C. W. Miller, J. R. Bowermaster, 1909-10; C. A. Lynch, 1910-11; S. G. Kauffman, 1911-13; O. R. Brooks, 1913-17; and C. A. Sollenberger, 1917-18.

Chestnut Grove Circuit, 1893-96: J. W. Boughter, 1893-95; N. A. Kiracofe, 1895-96.

Columbia Circuit (1), 1860-69. (See under Columbia Church.)

Columbia Circuit (2), 1919-25: A. W. Dambach, 1919-25.

Conestoga Circuit, 1875-85: A. H. Kauffman, 1875-80; M. P. Sanders, 1880-82; G. W. Lightner, 1882-84; and J. D. Freed, 1884-85.

Cordelia Circuit, 1906-07: Oliver Mease, 1906-07.

Ephrata Circuit, 1882-89: (See under Ephrata Church).

Florin Circuit, 1871-1946: (See under Florin Church).

Hopeland Circuit (1. Pannabecker's), 1855-56: Samuel Seiders, 1855-56.

Hopeland Circuit (2. Paradise), 1875-82: J. D. A. Garman, 1875-77; S. M. Hummel, 1877-78; Joseph Weirich, 1878-81; C. Walter, 1881-82.

Hopeland Circuit (3. Paradise), 1883-86: James G. Fritz, J. H. Unger, 1883-84; Henry Dissinger, 1884-85; and W. H. Kraumer, 1885-86.

Intercourse Circuit, 1875-1946: (See under Intercourse Church).

Ironville Circuit, 1887-88: J. Francis Smith, 1887-88.

Lancaster Circuit (1 continued), 1843-68: Samuel Seiders and Jacob Wenger, 1843-44; Samuel Seiders and Henry Staub, 1844-45; Henry Staub and Simon Noll, 1845-46; David Gingrich and George Gilbert, 1846-47; Jacob Sholler and George Gilbert, 1847-48; Jacob Sholler and David O'Farrel, 1848-49; David Gingrich Jr., and David O'Farrel, 1849-50; David Gingrich Jr., and Isaac Norcross, 1850-51; John Fohl and George A. Mark, 1851-52; John Fohl and John Stamm, 1852-53; John Stamm and Israel Carpenter, 1853-54; George A. Mark and Paul J. Riland, 1854-55; Conrad Geist and Paul J. Riland, 1855-56; Jacob Brewer and Christian Kauffman, 1858-59; Joseph Young Jr., and Jacob Doerkson, 1861-62; J. B. Daugherty and Lewis Peters, 1864-67; and Rudolph Kauffman, 1867-68.

Lancaster Circuit (2), 1878-81: G. G. Shellenberger, 1878-79; Allen Dunkelberger, 1879-80; and Henry H. Stehman, 1880-81.

Lancaster Circuit (3), 1888-90: A. M. Hackman, 1888-Oct. 1889; and J. W. Boughter, Oct. 1889-1890.

Lancaster Circuit (4), 1893-96: C. W. Raber, 1893-94; W. E. Johnson, 1894-95; George Cavanaugh, H. H. Hoffer, 1895-96.

Manheim Circuit, 1871-1946: (See under Manheim Church).

Manor Circuit, 1885-1946: H. H. Mower, 1885-87; H. H. Mower, U. S. G. Renn, 1887-88; J. F. Smith, 1888-Feb. 1889; William Beach, Feb. 1889-92; N. A. Kiracofe, 1892-95; S. G. Kauffman, 1895-1900; S. G. Kauffman, Martin Groff, 1900-01; H. Horace Romig, 1901-04; H. J. Behney, 1904-06; H. M. Trautman, 1906-08; John Ohmacht, 1908-10; Martin Groff, 1910-20; G. W. Hess, 1920-25; J. C. Deitzler, 1925-26; M. B. Groff, 1926-30; R. H. Wolfe, 1930-32; W. E. Sherriff, 1932-37; S. A. Rauch, 1937-43; S. A. Rauch, I. N. Seldomridge, 1943-44; and Robert W. Etter, 1944-46.

Marietta Circuit (1), 1881-82: Newton Shannon, appointed by East German Conference; but G. W. M. Rigor, serving Mt. Joy, and I. H. Albright, serving Florin, report at the end of the year, from East Pennsylvania Conference. So Marietta must have changed in attachment during the year.

Marietta Circuit (2), 1891-95: M. P. Sanders, G. L. Shaffer, 1891-92; William Beech, 1892-93; and G. F. Bierman, 1893-95.

Marietta Circuit (3), 1901-03: Martin Groff, 1901-03.

Mountville Circuit, 1862-1887: (See under Mountville Church).

Mt. Joy Circuit (1), 1867-71: H. E. Hackman and William Evers, 1867-68; David O'Farrel, George Stoll, 1868-69; and J. C. Mumma, 1869-71.

Mt. Joy Circuit (2), 1896-1901: N. A. Kiracofe, 1896-97; L. R. Kramer, 1897-98; S. L. Rhoads, 1898-1900; C. W. Hutsler, B. M. Breneman, G. B. Raezer, 1900-01.

Mt. Pleasant Circuit (1), 1876-78: John G. Smoker, 1876-78.

Mt. Pleasant Circuit (2), 1884-88: John G. Smoker, 1884-86; Theodore Wagner, John G. Smoker, 1886-87; and John G. Smoker, 1887-88.

Mt. Pleasant Circuit (3), Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; A. Hamilton, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889.

Mt. Pleasant Circuit (4), 1890-93: H. F. McNelly, 1890-93.

Neffsville Circuit, 1891-1946: (See under Neffsville Church).

New Holland Circuit, 1846-1946: (See under New Holland Church).

Pequea Valley Circuit, 1879-87: Z. C. Mower, 1879-83; J. O. Clippinger, 1883-84; and M. P. Sanders, 1884-87.

Pequea Circuit (2), 1888-1946: John G. Smoker, 1888-Feb. 1889; S. R. Gipple, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; P. H. Garret, H. F. McNelly, Oct. 1889-90; A. L. Shannon, 1890-92; George Cavanaugh, 1892-94; C. I. B. Brane, 1894-96; Thomas Garland, 1896-98; N. A. Kiracofe, 1898-1901; H. M. Trautman, 1901-03; William Beach, 1903-04; A. L. Haeseler,

1904-09; E. S. Comrey, 1909-12; S. G. Haas, 1912-14; H. H. Fertig, 1914-16; M. B. Groff, 1916-22; A. D. J. Shoemaker, 1922-23; E. M. Strickler, 1923-26; and F. E. Druckenbrod, 1926-46.

Quarryville Circuit, 1881-84: John G. Smoker, 1881-84.

Refton Circuit, 1901-46: (See under Refton Church).

Silver Spring Circuit, 1925-46: (See under Silver Spring Church).

2. The Churches of Lancaster County.

Brunnerville Church, Warwick Township

The Brunnerville Church had its beginning in a class of members who worshipped in homes of members in the village by the same name. The Rev. Henry Dissinger (1819-1887) lived in the community and had some part in promoting its organization. It may have been the reviving of a work begun in the nearby community of Lexington. The Rev. Samuel Seiders, serving the Hopeland (Pannabecker's) Circuit in 1855, reported an appointment at Lexington. In 1860 it was still on the same circuit.

In 1869 a church lot was bought and the church erected. The lot, 60x152 feet, was sold by Isaac Shoemaker and wife Sophia to the trustees of the congregation: Peter Althouse, Andrew Minnich, and John Nessinger, for the sum of \$55. The Rev. G. D. A. Garman, serving the Schaefferstown Circuit, was pastor at the time.

The first Sunday School, organized in 1866, was a union school, and met in a schoolhouse. In 1881 the school was reorganized as a strictly United Brethren school. Joseph Weirich, pastor, was the first superintendent. Those succeeding him in that office were: Henry Keith, Jacob Clair, Hiram Meck, Jacob Schultz, T. Jeff Hartranft, Frank Royer, Emanuel Habacker, Frank Royer, C. G. Carpenter, C. Hardman, M. M. Weber, C. S. Hartranft, James George, A. M. Shissler, John Nessinger, Edgar Miley, and Roy Hoffer.

James Shoop was pastor, 1871-73. In 1871, William Gass was class leader, Peter Althouse, assistant class leader, and Isaac Shoemaker, steward. The church roll, in 1871, in addition to these three names, had the following: John Hirst, Henry Hirst, Henry and Catharine Dissinger, Sophie Shoemaker, Catharine Brunner, Susanna Gass, Andrew and Sarah Minnich, Lydia and Mary M. Minnich, Zacharias Demmy, Mary A. Althouse, Anna Berkenbein, Mary Habecker, David Sherk, Jefferson Meily, and Sarah Nafsinger. By 1880, the class had increased to forty-five in number. The church remained with the Sinking Spring Circuit, 1869-73. It was placed on the Schaefferstown Circuit in 1873. In 1874, Brunnerville Circuit was created, and remained so for but one year, George Shindler was the pastor. From 1875 onward, Brunnerville Church was affiliated with the following circuits: Hopeland, (Paradise), 1875-82; Manheim, 1882-83; Hopeland, 1883-86; Lititz, 1886-89; Lancaster, 1889-90; Lititz,

1890-1911; Hopeland, 1911-13; under Lititz quarterly conference, 1913-17 and 1919-23; Lickdale, 1923-24.

Brunnerville constituted a charge in 1918. M. D. Kendig was the minister. While the church was under the Lititz quarterly, the following pastors served: B. M. Breneman, 1913-14; Amos Martin, 1914-17; A. W. Dambach, 1917-18; M. D. Kendig, 1919-20; C. C. Hollingsworth, 1920-21; Conray Curry, 1921-23. Pastors serving since it was a second time constituted a charge were: F. E. Druckenbrod, 1924-26; Oscar Sneath, 1926-27; R. G. Becktel, 1927-1929; Grant N. Miller, Harry W. Zechman, 1929-30; H. M. Tobias, 1930-35; W. C. Grosz, 1935-37; Harold Peiffer, 1937-40; Warren L. Strickler, 1940-41; Warren L. Strickler, Oscar Buch, 1941-43; Chester Hartman, 1944; and Calvin R. Miller, 1945-46.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Peiffer, conference year 1937-38, the church building was painted and renovated. A pulpit annex was added, and lights and pulpit were installed. The present membership numbers 111, the Sunday School enrollment, 139.



Brunnerville Church



Centerville Church

Centerville Church, East Hempfield Township

To the Rev. Abraham R. Myers of Mountville belongs the credit for establishing a church at Centerville. A Sunday School was organized by him in 1885 which met in the Centerville schoolhouse. J. Francis Smith, pastor of Ironville Circuit, reported an appointment at Centerville in 1887. Three years later at a quarterly conference held at Mountville a trustee board was elected, consisting of the Rev. Myers, A. B. Weaver, John W. Lehman, Lewis C. Wennerholt, Jacob Gible, Jonas G. Stehman, and J. H. Witmer, for the purpose of erecting a church building. The congregation was somewhat hesitant in securing ground for this project. A visit to a grove located near the school building brought the group to a favorable decision. These trustees purchased four acres and ninety-two perches, mostly woodland, for the sum of \$594.78, March 30, 1891. One year later, three and one-half acres of this plot were sold. Part of this tract was later repurchased for burial of the dead.

Plans for the building being presented, and the deed having been

secured, a frame church, 36x48, was erected. John Maley was the builder. The house of worship was dedicated by the Rev. Hiram B. Dohner, presiding elder, on September 4, 1892. The class was not organized until November following. Thirty members formed the new class, and a week later twenty-three additional members were received.

Considering that there was no organized class at the time, the building project was something of a venture. The cost of the land was more than met by the sale of part of it. From 1891-94 the congregation paid \$2,507.64 on the building cost. Six years after building, additional work was done on the structure. The building was painted inside and outside, carpeted, an altar rail and pulpit chairs placed. The improvements completed by July 1898, amounting to \$348.16, were paid for at the time.

Through the years following other improvements were made. In 1920 a furnace was installed. The church was remodeled in 1924 at a cost of \$866.20. To meet the demands of a growing Sunday School, an attractive chapel was annexed to the rear of the main building in 1942, costing five hundred dollars. Daniel L. Shearer was pastor at the time.

Centerville church has always kept in step with the general development of departmental organization. The Sunday School at the time of dedication of the church had an enrollment of 152 members, with an average attendance of 92. In 1893 a Young People's Christian Endeavor Union was organized with thirty members enrolled. Four years later a W. M. A. was organized with eight members. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Lizzie Newcomer; Vice President, Mrs. Clara Hess; Secretary, Mame Baker; and Treasurer, Naomi Sload. The Society has had only four presidents during these years: Mrs. Newcomer, 1897-99; Mrs. Amanda Shenk, 1899-1908; Mrs. Amy Bowers, 1908-37; and Mrs. F. L. Nixon, 1938 to the present.

In 1933 the Silver Spring charge bought a parsonage. It is at an excellent location about a mile west of the Centerville Church, on the Lancaster-Marietta pike. Each of the three churches, Centerville, Ironville, and Silver Spring, composing this charge, bore its proportional share, amounting to more than one thousand dollars.

Abraham R. Myers, founder and organizer of this congregation, was born in Manor Township, June 18, 1850, and died May 23, 1908. In early life he was a school teacher. Later he engaged in the mercantile business in Mountville. His love for christian work led him to apply for quarterly conference license. This was granted him by the Mountville quarterly held September 4, 1882. He was admitted into annual conference in 1893, and ordained three years later. After the close of his service at Centerville in 1892, he served the Middletown church and later Lancaster Covenant Church.

Centerville Church was with the Ironville Circuit 1887-88, J. Francis Smith, pastor. Its affiliation with circuits from 1882 to 1891

is uncertain. It was a part of Marietta circuit 1891-92. In 1892 it was constituted a charge. The pastors appointed were: Abraham R. Myers, 1892-99; I. N. Seldomridge, 1899-1900; G. B. Raeser, 1900-01; B. M. Breneman, 1901-04. It was with Refton for one year, 1904-05, S. G. Kauffman, pastor. For one year, 1905-06, it was a charge, O. L. Mease was the pastor. It was with Refton again in 1906-07. It was constituted a circuit in 1907, and remained so until 1918. Ministers appointed were: O. L. Mease, 1907-09; J. R. Bowermaster, 1909-10; C. A. Lynch, 1910-11; S. G. Kauffman, 1911-13; O. R. Brooks, 1913-17; C. A. Sollenberger, 1917-18. From 1918-25 it was affiliated with Refton and West Willow. From 1925 onward it has been a point on the Silver Spring Circuit.

Columbia, Salome Church

John Wright procured a patent for a ferry in the year 1730 and built a ferry-house at "Shawanah Indian Town," the future site of Columbia borough. The ferry was used until, and even after, the first bridge crossing the Susquehanna at that point was erected in 1814. A remark by Bishop Newcomer comes to mind in this connection. Under date of April 26, 1814, he wrote in his Journal, "Today I rode through Columbia. They are building a bridge across the Susquehanna River at this place; this is a wonderful undertaking; where will the inventive genius of man stop?" The following November he rode across the new bridge. Columbia was on his route of travel as he came across from Strickler's near Hallem, York County, and either went out to the Rev. John Christian Smith's in West Hempfield, or down to the Herr's in the Manor. The events of a meeting held jointly by the Methodists and the United Brethren in Columbia in 1804 have been previously stated.

The United Brethren, however, established no work in Columbia at that time. It was not until the year 1846, when some families moved to Columbia who had United Brethren learnings, that our church had its beginning there. Among these families were those of Christian Hershey and Solomon VonNieda. The ministers serving the Lancaster Circuit began holding services in these and other private homes. Those on the circuit, 1858-59, were Joseph Young Jr., and Christian Kauffman. They organized a class consisting of: Christian Hershey, leader; David C. Wayne, steward; Sarah and Mary Wayne, Elizabeth Hershey, Catharine Hoffman, John Rhinehart, H. Lewars and Mary Lewars, Susan Hoffman, Henry Fordney and Lovina Fordney, Mary Lewis, J. C. and Elizabeth Meldram.

Services were also held in a schoolhouse next to the lots on which the first church building was subsequently erected, in 1860. Samuel Shock, by deed dated April 7, 1860, conveyed part of lots numbered 29, 30, and 31, a plot of ground fronting on Perry Street, eighty-six feet, and extending along Third Street, seventy-six feet, to Jonas Garber, Christian Hershey, and David C. Wayne, trustees, in trust, for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, to erect or build or cause to build a house of worship, for the consideration of nine-hundred dollars. The cornerstone was laid July 1, 1860 by the Rev.



Columbia Church

William B. Raber, of Pennsylvania Conference. The structure was completed by November and dedicated on the 11th of that month by Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner.

G. W. Scott, appointed pastor in that year, came to our conference from Allegheny Conference in 1860, and in 1862 withdrew and joined the Baptists. He reported a membership of sixty at the close of his year. Annual conference made an appropriation of two-hundred dollars to launch the project. The second year Lewis Peters was appointed and an appropriation of \$150 was made. Mountville and West Hempfield (Ironville) churches were attached to Columbia in 1862. The Rev. Peters continued to serve for a second year. The following year, Mountville was detached. G. W. Miles Rigor served the charge three years, Joseph B. Daugherty, one year, 1866-67.

During two years, 1867-69, Columbia was attached to Mountville Circuit. W. S. H. Keys served the circuit the first year, A. H. Kauffman assisted him the second year. Columbia became a station in 1869. The Rev. Keys continued with the church that year. He reported a membership of 201 at the close of his three years with Columbia church.

In the first decade of its history as an organized congregation, the church had a varied experience. There was a decided growth in membership. In its third year the membership was sufficiently large to form two class-meeting groups. Christian Hershey and Augustus Pelan were the leaders, David C. Wayne and J. Hinkle were stewards. In the year 1868-69 the church had three class leaders, three assistant class leaders, four stewards, and a leader for a juvenile class. This latter was unique for the time, we believe. It is the only instance of its kind on record in quarterly conference proceedings for that period, to come under our observation. The work, however, was greatly handicapped by a debt on a church which was inadequate to meet the needs of the congregation. Resolutions dealing with this situation were passed in annual conference sessions of the years 1865 and 1866.

The first church building was greatly improved in 1877, though still too small. Three years later some thought was given to the erection of a new church at a more favorable location. Consequently in 1885 a new site was purchased. It was a plot of ground fronting eighty feet on Fifth Street, and extending along alley H sixty-two feet. The trustees at the time were: John C. Klingbeil, Thomas S. White, Uriah Sourbeer, Aaron Dyer, and David Welsch. The purchase price was \$1,200. The cornerstone for the new church was laid August 4, 1886. A two-storied brick structure sixty-two by forty-eight feet in size was erected. Jacob Sneath, who made some valuable contributions to the local church and the conference, was the contractor for this church building, as also for the first. The new sanctuary, now bearing the name of "Salome" was dedicated to sacred worship by Bishop E. B. Kephart, Sunday, October 9, 1887. Its total cost was \$12,542.55, of which amount all but \$1,500 had been provided before the day of dedication. Cyrus D. Harp, pastor, 1885-88, gave leadership to this glorious achievement.

Columbia was a growing community. Its favorable location and enterprising citizens, by developing industries and excellent mercantile, financial, and other institutions, attracted new inhabitants. Salome church experienced a corresponding growth. Its increase in membership was consistent, but periodically, it was well-nigh phenomenal. A. A. Long became its pastor in 1893, and during his first year he added 250 members to the church roll. In 1894 additional property was bought, its house of worship enlarged, the original building improved, and new equipment installed, at a total cost of \$5,051.30. S. C. Enck came to Salome church in 1898 and remained fourteen years. Under his effective ministry the church took new strides. In 1901, a house having all modern conveniences,

located at 123 North Fourth Street, was bought for use as a parsonage at a total cost of \$3,750. Two additional properties were secured in 1910 at a total cost of \$4,700: one at 504 Walnut Street, which has for some years now been used as a pastor's residence; the other on Fifth Street. At the close of Dr. Enck's pastorate, the membership numbered 617.

In 1917 and 1929 respectively, the properties at 506 and 512 Walnut Street were purchased—total cost, \$5,800. In 1932 an annex, fifty by fifty feet, was added to the main building to provide additional room for an overcrowded Sunday School. Dedicatory services were held May 22 of that year by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, assisted by the pastor, A. L. Haeseler. The cost of the annex, and other considerable improvements made to the main building, was \$5,080.68.

The properties at Nos. 13-21 North Fifth Street were bought in 1942 with the view of using the area for church parking. It is evident that the congregation's ministerial and lay leadership has had a long-range expansion in mind in buying these properties which lie adjacent to each other. Plans have been laid and preliminary drawings are complete for the erection of a modern church plant consisting of: Church, Christian education, and parsonage buildings. The sum of seventy-five thousand dollars is in hand to begin this enterprise as soon as materials are available. Dr. H. J. Behney is now in the eighth year of his ministry with this congregation. He already has to his credit that of giving leadership to the erection of two modern church plants; viz., Manheim and Shamokin First. Handicaps created by war emergencies have prevented launching the building project of his present parish.

The complete list of pastors serving the congregation since 1860 is as follows: G. W. Scott, 1860-61; Lewis Peters, 1861-63; G. W. M. Rigor, 1863-66; J. B. Daugherty, 1866-67; W. S. H. Keys, 1867-68; W. S. H. Keys, A. H. Kauffman, 1868-69; W. S. H. Keys, 1869-70; George Wagoner, H. V. Mohn, 1870-71; J. C. Mumma, 1871-73; John W. Geiger, 1873-76; W. Dickson Mower, 1876-79; C. Seltzer Meily, 1879-82; C. Seltzer Meily, S. G. Merrick, Jacob C. Smith, 1882-83; J. B. Funk, 1883-85; Cyrus D. Harp, 1885-88; Esdras Ludwig, 1888-93; A. A. Long, 1893-98; S. C. Enck, 1898-1912; Joseph Daugherty, 1912-15; P. H. Balsbaugh, 1915-19; A. K. Wier, 1919-26; A. L. Haeseler, 1926-38; and H. J. Behney, 1938-46.

Denver, Trinity Church

When U. S. G. Renn was pastor of the United Brethren church in Ephrata, he felt the need of a church in Denver, Pennsylvania. In the year 1899 he preached several times in the borough of Denver, arousing considerable interest. On September 3, 1899, a class was organized consisting of the following members: Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. McGill, Mrs. Alice E. Kurtz, and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shuler. The first revival meeting was held in Shirk's Hall, better known as the old Fire Hall, on Railroad Street. This

meeting began February 12, 1900, and closed March 26. The following persons were converted: Mrs. Kate Flory, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Jennie Sweigart, Mrs. Ephraim Renninger, Mrs. Elizabeth Eberly, Mrs. Henry Hartman, Mrs. Ada Sweigart, Mrs. Eliza Stark, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Hagy, Nora Renninger, Sadie Becker, Cora Becker, Stella Eberly, Callie Greeninger, Carrie Shiffler, William Renninger, and Mrs. James Showalter. All of the above united with the church March 25, 1900, excepting Mrs. Eliza Stark, who joined one week later. Some time after this revival service the congregation moved across the street to the third floor of Wolf's Hall, where services were held regularly until the church was built.

At a quarterly conference held at Ephrata March 7, 1900, the following board of trustees was chosen: E. B. Wolf, A. R. McGill, Isaac H. Miller, all of Denver, and Charles Yeager and C. E. King of Ephrata. The first meeting of the board was held in the home of E. B. Wolf on March 26. The trustee board met again on May 11, 1900, at which time a lot of ground was purchased from the Hon. J. A. Stober of Schoeneck, Penna., for \$425. Later, thirty-five additional feet were purchased from Ephraim Renninger for \$280. On June 12, 1900, ground was broken for the church building. The cornerstone was laid July 8, 1900. The services for the day opened with a prayer and praise service at 6:00 a.m. in Shirk's Hall. The Sunday School session followed at 9:00. From the Hall they went to the park in Denver, where the preaching service was held in the pavilion. U. S. G. Renn, the pastor, had charge of the service. The Rev. H. T. Denlinger of Lancaster preached the sermon. In the afternoon at 2:00 o'clock the members and friends of the congregation assembled at the site of the church building on what was then known as North Union Street (now North Main Street), where the cornerstone-laying ceremonies took place. The Revs. Renn and Denlinger gave short addresses. The evening services were held in the park pavilion. After a spirited song service, the Rev. Denlinger preached.

The church was dedicated November 25, 1900 by Bishop E. B. Kephart, assisted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent. Friday evening before the dedication, the first service was held in the church with the pastor, S. L. Rhoads, preaching the sermon. Saturday evening the message was given by Dr. Lowery. The cost of the church was \$5,476. The cash offering on the day of dedication amounted to four hundred dollars. The building committee consisted of E. B. Wolf, I. H. Miller, A. R. McGill, and E. S. Hagy. The contractors were Messrs. B. H. Kegerrise, Ephraim Renninger, and E. A. Kurtz. The church was originally lighted with gas, but, in September 1912, electric lights were installed. The auditorium measures 32 by 58 feet and the Sunday School room is 20 by 32 feet in size. During the administration of Ira R. Fortna the basement was enlarged and a new heating plant installed.

When S. L. Rhoads was assigned to the Denver charge there was no parsonage. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shimp, who lived across the street from the church, invited the preacher and his wife to move



Denver Church

into their home for the winter. Later the house, number 422 Main Street, next door to the church, was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Renninger as the parsonage. The following trustees were elected: Ephraim Renninger, J. W. Horst, and Stephen Gensemer. December 21, 1919, the trustee board of the church and the parsonage board merged into one with the following trustees being elected by the quarterly conference on the above date: A. D. Meisky, Ephraim Renninger, H. Palm, Emanuel Hagy, and Robert Mowery.

The first bell cracked after it was in use a short time. It was sent back to the factory to be repaired. After these repairs were made it cracked the second time. On July 14, 1902, the board decided to purchase a new No. 44 steel alloy bell. This bell is still being used.

Harry M. Mentzer received his quarterly conference license to preach at a meeting of the quarterly conference in Denver in the year 1912.

In the year 1937 approximately twenty-five persons withdrew their membership from the church and formed another organization. This was a severe blow to the congregation, but the members rallied and decided that the church must go on. Even though handicapped for lack of leaders, the church forged ahead, making considerable progress each succeeding year. The church today is better in every way than it has ever been in its history. The church debt has been liquidated, the assessments paid in full with a nice balance in the treasury, and members are being added each year.

The following ministers served this church: U. S. G. Renn, 1899-1900; S. L. Rhoads, 1900-03; Amos Lehman, 1903-05; S. G. Kauffman, 1905-08; J. E. Keene, 1908-09; W. W. Fridinger, 1909-14; M. H. Miller, 1914-18; O. G. Romig, 1918-20; B. M. Breneman, 1920-32; Ira R. Fortna,

1932-37; J. M. Walters, 1937-39; O. R. Brooks, 1939-45; Charles W. Wolfe, 1945-46.

Eby's (Union) Church, Rapho Township

The Eby's Church, known also as Union and as Strickler's, though no longer regularly used as a house of worship, made such a great contribution to United Brethrenism that its history deserves recording. The building erected of brick in the year 1851 is still well preserved. It is located in Rapho Township on an elevation of ground along a country road which branches off northward from the Mt. Joy-Manheim road, about two miles east of Mt. Joy.

Though the congregation at Florin had a house of worship nine years before the congregation at Eby's, the latter may have been the earlier of the two congregations. A comparison of church rolls shows that by the year 1861 both were of about equal membership strength. Eby's was the first of these two congregations to entertain an annual conference. The annual conference held March 1-5, 1841, was entertained by this class. It was held in "Strickler's Schoolhouse," or as the minutes have it: "Rapho Schoolhouse No. 3." This school building, erected of stone, stood along the same road along which the church now stands, on Strickler land. The successor to the older school is called, "Elm Tree School," and is located southwesterly from the site of the original building. The meeting of annual conference was the earliest held in that particular section of Lancaster County.

Suppose we drop in on this session to make some observations. Bishop Jacob Erb is the presiding officer, with the Rev. John Fohl, one of two presiding elders, as vice chairman. The conference, when the session opens, is composed of seventy members, all ministers, of whom twenty-eight answer the roll on the first day. Eight additional respond on the second day and thirty-four do not attend any session. Only twelve out of the total membership held conference appointments during the year just closed. Three of the charges respectively were served by two ministers, so there were but nine charges. They were as follows: Chambersburg Station, Chambersburg Circuit, Baltimore City, York Mission, York Circuit, Carlisle Circuit, Dauphin Circuit, Lebanon Circuit, and Lancaster Circuit. The presiding elders are John Fohl of the Chambersburg district and John Light of the Lebanon district. Casper Light is elected to record the minutes in the German language and Martin Lohr to make the English record. Here, seated on pupils' benches, the ministers are giving rapt attention to the devotional address of Bishop Erb, based on Corinthians, first epistle, chapter three. He is now, at the age of thirty-six years, in the course of holding his last round of annual conferences during the first quadrennium of episcopal service. Following the devotional address, election of officers, and roll call, the examination of ministers, both present and absent, consumes all the remaining time of the first day's session and all of the second day's session. During the course of the examination, four are reported as having withdrawn, one asks for a

certificate of withdrawal, one is granted a transfer, and two are expelled.

A review of the remaining three days of the session follows. Ten candidates for the ministry appear before the committee, and five additional names of men not present are proposed for license. Eleven of the fifteen applicants are received. One minister was received by transfer. Four were voted elder's orders and were ordained. The death of the sainted Felix Light of Lebanon was reported to the session. The Bishop, presiding elders, and ministers paid over the monies they received. These, together with miscellaneous collections and income, amounted to \$1,362.21. This amount was divided among those who served the conference, on the basis of \$160 to married men, and \$80 for single men, with a few exceptions. No money was held over, consequently there was no need for a conference treasurer. Conference voted to form a Home Missionary Society. It was virtually a conference society—its purpose, to augment the meager salaries ministers were then receiving. Twenty-four ministers subscribed \$176 as an initial fund. Officers were elected and a committee of three was appointed to draw up a constitution.

When the report of the stationing committee was read, five ministers who held appointments during the previous years, received no appointments at this session. Bishop Erb was appointed to serve the Baltimore Church, which he did the next quadrennium while also serving a second term as Bishop. The Revs. Fohl and Light were elected presiding elders. Conference voted to meet at Funk's Schoolhouse, Dauphin County, then adjourned.

The work at Eby's was greatly strengthened by the influence of one of the venerable ministers of the conference, Daniel Peiffer, who was a long-time resident of the community. His second marriage was to a young widow of the neighborhood, which accounts for his locating here. He was born in Germany, October 21, 1785. In 1815 conference granted him exhorter's license, minister's license in 1818, and elder's orders in 1820. The Rev. Peiffer was junior preacher on the Hagerstown Circuit, 1819-20, and senior preacher of the Virginia circuit, 1820-21. From 1821 to 1826 he continued as an itinerant, serving during part of the period on the Lancaster Circuit. While on this circuit he became acquainted with Miss Barbara Hershey, a young daughter of a well-known United Brethren family of Manor Township. On September 6, 1825 he was married to Barbara Hershey, daughter of the Rev. Abraham Hershey and Maria Herr Hershey, Bishop Newcomer officiating at the Hershey home. After a comparatively short period, the first Mrs. Peiffer died, her death occurring on December 26, 1836, at the age of thirty-two years, five months and twenty-six days. Her body was laid to rest in the family burial plot located on the Hershey homestead at Creswell, Manor Township.

Apparently from that time forward, the Rev. Peiffer held a local relation in the Conference. Having located in the Eby's neighbor-

hood, his interest and influence in conference and local church matters continued. He missed only a few sessions of annual conference up to the time of the division of the area in 1846. His wisdom in counsel was recognized in that he was appointed to the stationing committee as late as 1852. He was last present in 1860. Over a period of a decade he was one of but a few men who received aid from the Benevolent Fund. "It was within the recollection of Father Peiffer that most of the pioneer incidents of our Church's history transpired, and it was, in consequence, with great pleasure that younger ministers sat listening to Father Peiffer as he related the experiences of his earlier ministry. As a minister he was sound in doctrine and instructive in his discourses. His life was exemplary." He died on September 20, 1868. His mortal remains were interred in the cemetery adjoining the Eby's Church.

Why this church should have been called "Union Church" is not apparent. A wooden block set in the west gable bears the inscription, "Union Church built, A.D. 1851, by the United Brethren in Christ." The deed states that John Strickler, John G. Clair, and George Eby, trustees of the members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ of Rapho Township and vicinity, on May 6, 1851, purchased seventy-nine perches of land for the consideration of thirty dollars. Other denominations worshipped there, but apparently none but United Brethren had any financial interest in the property.

John G. Clair, whose name appears as one of the trustees, later became a member of annual conference, being admitted in 1859, ordained in 1863, and served for two years, 1862-64, charges in Pennsylvania Conference; and Highspire, Halifax, Harrisburg, Pine Grove, and Susquehanna Circuits in East Pennsylvania. He was born in West Hempfield Township, held local membership, first at Eby's, then at Mt. Joy, in which town he spent his later years and died.

The Eby family lived about two miles north of the church, in the valley of the Back Run Creek. It was a rather large family. The names of George Eby, Jacob Eby, and H. S. Eby appear on the trustee lists. George Eby's name also comes up in connection with the purchase of a lot for the Mt. Joy church. Jacob Eby was married to Esther Shoemaker, who after his death married the Rev. Peiffer. The Stricklers were also very numerous in the community, several of whom were members of the congregation. John S. Bradley was for many years secretary of the quarterly conference, and member of the trustee board. Christian M. Breneman, later a member of Mt. Joy, served as class leader and trustee.

Benjamin M. Breneman was very active at Eby's before removing to Silver Spring. He taught various public schools in Lancaster County. The writer, when a lad of six years, attended school under him for a term in the neighboring district, at Hossler's. Benjamin M. Breneman served as class leader, Sunday School superintendent, and secretary of the quarterly conference. He heard the call to the

Christian ministry, was licensed by a quarterly held on the charge, at Ironville, February 10, 1900. In 1901, he received annual license, and was ordained in 1909. The charges he served were: Marietta Circuit, Centerville Circuit, Harrisburg Circuit, Hopeland, Refton and West Willow, and Denver. Ephraim Hertzler and wife united with the Eby's Church, August 10, 1877. Brother Hertzler served on the trustee board. These parents had among other children, a son, Clayton, who as a young layman, took a very active part in the life of the congregation. Some years later he was a member of the Otterbein Church, Lancaster. The Rev. G. Edgar Hertzler, son of Clayton, is now numbered among the talented young ministers of the conference.

During the winter of 1898, the Rev. L. R. Kramer had a great revival at this church. He reported to the quarterly conference held in March that a meeting had been in progress four months in which sixty-four souls were converted. Following this meeting a Y. P. C. U. was organized with Abram N. Stauffer as president. The Church at that time also had a W. M. A. The Sunday School had an enrollment of seventy-five members. Like many other rural churches, this church in time began to decline in strength due to the removal of its members to town and city churches, so that now, though its activities have ceased, nevertheless, its influences live on.

The congregation at Eby's was served by pastors on the following circuits: the Lancaster Circuit prior to 1866; Mt. Joy Circuit, 1866-71; Mt. Joy Station, 1871-76; Florin Circuit, 1876-89; Ruhl's, 1889-92; Chestnut Grove Circuit, 1893-96; Marietta Circuit, 1896-1903; Florin Station, 1905-15; Brunnerville Circuit, 1916-18; Florin Station, 1919-46. From 1903 to 1905 it was a station or charge. M. E. Bachman was the pastor.

Elizabethtown, St. Paul's Church

The itinerant and lay preachers traveling back and forth between their appointments with the Florin class and the Gingrich's (Hillsdale) class made appointments to preach in and about Elizabethtown. The classes at Florin and Gingrich's were well organized and had houses of worship at the time. One of these itinerants was the Rev. David Gingrich Jr. He lived on a farm about a mile east of the town. When the class was organized, and probably before, he was a member of the group worshipping in its environs. He was born in the year 1802, was granted annual license in 1833, was ordained in 1835, and served the following circuits: Lancaster, 1846-47, 1849-50; Dauphin, 1847-48, and Berks, 1852-53. Having no more worlds to conquer, as it were, he was not afterward appointed by conference. Preachers were plentiful in those days, there being more than three times as many preachers as there were charges. They had to take their turn in serving the available conference appointments.

Joseph Hammaker (1814-1877) was also a member of the Elizabethtown class. He received annual license in 1842 and elder's orders in 1850. The work and influence of these men and others and

the existence of the two nearby churches were contributing factors in beginning work at Elizabethtown. Another, though more remote influence in this, as in many other communities, was Newcomer's work in an earlier period. He makes mention that in 1797 he preached near Elizabethtown to a numerous congregation, a preacher of the Moravian Society being among his hearers. Incidentally, it may be said, the Moravians had established themselves and had erected a house of worship near Milton Grove, four miles to the east.

By 1853 there was an organized class. David Gingrich, George Reider, and Samuel Geyer, trustees for the Elizabethtown class, by deed dated May 28, 1853, came into possession of a plot of ground fronting 196 feet on the Manheim Road and extending sixty feet along an alley, with a meeting house erected thereon. A brick structure, about thirty by forty feet in size, had been built by the Church of God. The said congregation, however, had not received a deed from the owner of the lot, so he sold the church and lot to the United Brethren—the sale price was \$700. After some changes had been made, the edifice was dedicated by its new owners.

From a church record, now held by a church removed from Elizabethtown about twenty miles, which church was then one of thirteen appointments on the Lancaster Circuit, we copied the names of the members of the Elizabethtown church. Those on the roll from 1861 to 1863 are as follows: David and Mollie Gingrich, Joseph and Catharine Hammaker, George Reider, John, Mrs., Catharine and Elizabeth Reider, William and Rebecca Barnes, Samuel and Elizabeth Balmer, David, Mrs., and Anna Brenemen, Fanny Brill, Thomas Buck, John, Susanna and Mary Eichelberger, Samuel and Catherine Geyer, Maria Good, Elizabeth Hoffman, Christian Kapp, Benjamin, Esther and Fanny Lehn, Elizabeth Meckley, John and Elizabeth Nauman, Jacob and Catharine Shaeffer, and Magdalena Shearer. Forty-nine additional names were added in the period, 1864-71, making a total of eighty-four members on this particular record. Here is evidence that the congregation made commendable progress.

Eight years later when I. H. Albright, serving the Florin Circuit, became its pastor, the membership had been so reduced in numbers that the brethren at Elizabethtown wanted to abandon their work. Certain circumstances prevailing at the time in conference ranks give ground for a reason why this change had taken place.

For a number of years, prior to the forming of East German Conference, the language question was a very live issue both on the floor of annual conference and of general conference. The action of general conference by directing, in 1869, that a German Conference be formed, prevented more serious losses, but the old sores remained for a long time. Secondly, there was an unfavorable attitude toward the rising educational institutions. Many of our people wanted nothing to do with "factory-made" preachers. In the third place, was the influence of George Hoffman and his followers, who formed the Hoffmanite or United Christian denomination.

Among the conference ministers, and member of the Elizabethtown Church, was George Reider. He had been licensed and ordained in the years 1858 and 1863, respectively. In 1870 conference ordered his name erased from the conference roll. Conference proceedings further show that David Gingrich Jr. had some grievances. The committee dealing with the same in 1870 made a report, but the substance of the report does not appear on the minutes, so it cannot be said what conclusions were reached. Nevertheless, it is a fact, that his name does not appear on the conference roll in 1870, nor after. About two months after that session of conference he drew up his last will and testament, in which he made a bequest of \$1,000 "to the Missionary Fund of the United Brethren Church," and also directed that his funeral services "be conducted according to the rites and ceremonies of the U. B. Church." At the time of the probating of the will a rather unusual item was included: "David Gingrich died the fourth of September in the year 1874, at half-past four in the afternoon."

Dr. Albright, instead of heeding the wishes of the Elizabethtown Church representatives at the session of quarterly conference, suggested to hold on another year. Faithful pastoral work at this appointment, and the re-organization of the Sunday School marked the beginning of a turning tide of progress.

The church bought in 1853 was rededicated, June 12 of the same year. Repairs and improvements were made in 1887, costing \$700. William Behney, and the ladies of the congregation led by Mrs. Kate Hoffman, Mrs. Harriett Brown, and Mrs. S. K. Barnes, did noble service in securing funds to meet the cost of improvement. Isaiah Baltzell, presiding elder, assisted by the pastor, S. R. Gipple, held rededicatory services.

A new church was erected under the pastorate of H. M. Miller. He began to solicit funds in 1901. The next year definite steps were taken to erect a new building on the site of the old. Building operations began in 1903. The cornerstone was laid May 10, with appropriate exercises conducted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, assisted by the pastor, and the Rev. J. B. Funk. It was dedicated by Dr. William M. Bell, secretary of Foreign Missions, on December 20, 1903. The board of trustees at the time consisted of: D. B. Shirk, Dr. G. R. Kersey, J. H. Stern, David H. Myers, and B. L. Geyer. The project cost approximately \$12,000.

In 1909 a house adjoining the church property was purchased, remodeled, and made desirable for the pastor's residence. A constantly growing membership demanded that larger accommodations be provided. A basement was constructed and fitted out under the original Sunday School building to house the Beginner and Primary Departments, in 1912. Later the basement under the main building was dug deeper and made suitable for a dining room and social meetings.

The next step was the erection of a Sunday School Chapel. A structure of brick, 49 by 73 feet in size was added to the church

proper. From its rear it has the appearance of a three-story building. Large windows admit abundance of daylight to the basement or lower floor, which houses the children's division. An assembly room and five large classrooms comprise the second or main floor. The gallery provides room for nine classes. Curtains and accordion doors are so placed that there can be individual classwork on each floor.



Elizabethtown Church

The committee which planned and supervised this project, in conjunction with the pastor, Dr. Joseph Daugherty, were: B. G. Lehn, J. H. Stern, I. E. Shoop, D. H. Myers, and B. L. Geyer. The improvements on the original building and the cost of the new structure approximated \$37,600. The cornerstone was laid October 5, 1924, by conference superintendent, Dr. S. C. Enck. Bishop William M. Bell dedicated the Chapel April 5, 1925. A great host of people came to the services of the day, replete with inspiration and fellowship. Eight visiting pastors representing various denominations were present in the afternoon. Evening services were held

during the week following. The speakers for the six nights in their order were: H. M. Miller, and I. N. Seldomridge, two former pastors; and H. E. Schaeffer, D. E. Long, P. B. Gible, and O. T. Ehrhart.

Paul E. Fridinger has been pastor since 1942. Under his administration the congregation is continuing its forward march. It now numbers 859 in church membership, a net increase of seventy-five in three years. The Sunday School enrollment stands at 815, with an average attendance of 451 for the year 1944-45. Dr. Albright was right when in 1879 he advised the brethren at Elizabethtown to "hold on for another year."

Prior to 1867, St. Paul's church was affiliated with Lancaster Circuit. The circuit changes and pastoral appointees from that year onward are as follows: (Mt. Joy, 1867-71): H. E. Hackman and William Evers, 1867-68; David O'Farrell and George Stoll, 1868-69; J. C. Mumma, 1869-71; (Florin, 1871-76): C. Seltzer Meily, 1871-73; George A. Loose, 1873-75; Israel Groff, 1875-76. (A station, 1876-78): James W. Taylor, 1876-77; James W. Taylor, then P. A. Bowman, 1877-78. (Florin, 1878-82): P. A. Bowman, 1878-79; Isaac H. Albright, 1879-82. (Swatara, A. H. Kauffman, 1882-83.)¹ (Florin, 1883-88): L. R. Kramer, 1883-86; S. R. Gipple, 1886-88. (Middletown Centennial, H. D. Lehman, 1888-91.) (Florin, 1891-1904): J. M. Shelly, 1891-94; J. Francis Smith, 1894-96; M. A. Salt, 1896-99; Harry M. Miller, 1899-1904. (A station since 1904): H. M. Miller, 1904-07; C. W. Miller, 1907-09; S. S. Daugherty, 1909-13; I. N. Seldomridge, 1913-20; A. G. Nye, 1920-23; Joseph Daugherty, 1923-29; C. C. Hollingsworth, 1929-42; and Paul E. Fridinger, 1942-46.

Ephrata Church

A tender ministry of service to the sick took M. J. Mumma, pastor of the New Holland Circuit, to Ephrata in 1871. Three members of the Ranck's Church had moved to Ephrata some time previously; they were Mrs. Burton Keemer, and Mr. and Mrs. William Sprecher. The Keemers had a son by the name of Cyrus whose illness gave occasion for the Rev. Mumma to make his visit. The young man professed conversion, was baptized, and took the vows of the church. He died in the faith in August of the same year.

There arose a strong desire on the part of these persons to have regular preaching under the auspices of the United Brethren. At a quarterly meeting held on the circuit in the spring of 1872, William Sprecher of Ephrata, Levi Hoover of near New Holland, and John R. Boyer of Hinkletown were constituted a board of trustees to undertake the building of a church at Ephrata. In the same year a lot was purchased, but being found unsuitable, the site was abandoned and a second purchase made. The latter was on Church Street, the site of the present church. Ephrata was then a cross-roads town of less than one-hundred houses and shops. Without a church organization and with but a small prospective constituency, the trustees-elect held a meeting on June 24, 1872, at which time it was decided to build a brick edifice, 32 by 42 feet in size.

There was no delay in getting started on the building. The cornerstone was laid on July 28 by W. S. H. Keys, then pastor of Trinity church, Lebanon. By December the building was completed and the house of worship dedicated on the 2nd of the month by the Rev. Lewis Peters, presiding elder of the Reading District, assisted by pastor Mumma. Several weeks of revival services followed. At the close of these services the church was organized with thirty-six members. In 1882 the sanctuary was renovated. A new six-hundred pound bell was placed in 1886.

Additional ground was secured in 1887. J. J. Yeager, John Fessler, C. E. King, D. S. VonNieda, and A. R. Kepperling were trustees at the time. A parsonage was erected to the left of the original church property in 1890, and dedicated early in the following year. The house and lot cost fifteen-hundred dollars. The house was modernized and enlarged in 1911 at a cost of seventeen-hundred dollars. Extensive interior and exterior improvements were made to it in 1920-21.

The congregation outgrew its first house of worship. In 1891, consideration was given to the erection of a new church. Plans were laid to erect a two-storied brick structure, forty-four by seventy feet in size. The cornerstone was laid July 24, 1892, by the Rev. C. J. Kephart, assisted by the Rev. J. A. Lyter and the pastor, J. Francis Smith. The cost was \$5,600, of which amount three-thousand dollars was paid by the end of the conference year. It was dedicated December 4, 1892, by Bishop Nicholas Castle, assisted by the Rev. H. B. Dohner and J. G. W. Herrold, pastor. The dedication took place on the corresponding Sunday of the same month exactly twenty years after the dedication of the first edifice. The church membership now numbered 140, and the Sunday School enrollment was 175.

During C. E. Boughter's administration, 1903-10, the indebtedness of the church was cancelled, and improvements on the church building made and paid to the amount of approximately two-thousand dollars. He received a large class of members in 1906.

Dr. C. A. Lynch, on graduating from Bonebrake Theological Seminary, May, 1921, was appointed pastor. Forty-eight members were added during his first year. In 1922 a new Moller pipe organ was installed, costing \$4,200. The entire amount was raised in a campaign of three weeks' duration. Bishop William M. Bell dedicated the organ on June 11th. In this connection the Golden Anniversary of the founding of the church was celebrated. Services were held during the following week.

This ever thriving church in a thriving community took a decided forward step by the erection of a Christian Education building. In 1926, additional ground was purchased adjoining the church property on the right. It cost \$9,500. An official board meeting held April 5, 1933, set the wheels in motion to plan for a new church and church school that would meet present and future needs. Architectural plans having been carefully made, ground was broken for the first unit, that of the church school building. The cornerstone was laid



Ephrata Church

(Architect's Drawing—Main Building in Process of Erection, 1950)

by appropriate ceremonies on July 21, 1935, Dr. J. A. Lyter officiating. The unit being completed, services of consecration were held May 17 to 24, 1936. Bishop Grant D. Batdorf preached on the morning of the 17th, and in the afternoon performed dedicatory rites. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, preached in the evening. On evenings of the following week, the speakers were: Monday, Dr. C. A. Lynch, president of Lebanon Valley College, and former pastor; Tuesday, Paul E. V. Shannon, son of A. L. Shannon, a former pastor; Wednesday, J. M. Walters, former pastor; Thursday, LeRoy R. Walters, son of J. M. On Friday evening a pageant-drama, "Let There Be Light," was presented under the direction of Miss Dorothy Willits.

The new building must be carefully inspected to be fully appreciated. It is a three-storied stone structure of Gothic design, and embodies all the best traditions of ecclesiastical architecture. The masses and proportions of the building, together with the entrances, the bays, and the art windows, combine to produce a most pleasing appearance. The interior is so planned and furnished that all standard educational requirements are met. There is a corridor running lengthwise through the building on each floor. Doors open to plastered classrooms on both sides of these corridors. Assembly rooms for the several departments are located in proper relation. Adequate restrooms, coatrooms, supply cabinets, and other facilities are provided.

Dr. E. M. Rhoad, pastor of the congregation, 1925-43, directed his lay co-workers in this great achievement. Two committees were

in charge: a planning committee and a building committee. The combined personnel of these committees was as follows: C. S. Yeager Sr., H. H. Hoffman, Menno W. Hess, F. S. Weaver, Horace W. Weaver, J. R. Wertsch, William D. Bryson, L. H. Hackman, Harry S. Gerhart, John G. Willits, and A. H. Berkenbine. The total cost was \$83,730.52. All financial obligations were met by the time of the ninth anniversary, which was observed May 13, 1945, during the pastorate of L. R. Walters, Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, directing the note-burning service and preaching the sermon.

The Sunday School had its beginning at the time of the church organization. It was discontinued for a few years, but reorganized in 1876. The Women's Missionary Society was organized during the ministry of P. A. Bowman. In the time of C. A. Mutch's pastorate, special support to foreign work was begun. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. King had this work at heart for many years and gave it generous support. Miss June M. Hartranft, who had been deaconess since 1942, was consecrated as a missionary by Bishop Batdorf at a service held in the local church on January 21, 1945, Drs. S. G. Zeigler and John F. Musselman also being present. She sailed for the West African mission field on February 17 following. The congregation's interest in foreign mission work has measurably increased through intimate relationships with its own missionary whom it is partially supporting through special contributions.

Stephen Raby, David Gockley, and Lloyd Crall, young men of this church, have been licensed to preach. H. H. Hoffman, Leroy Wolf, John R. Wertsch, William D. Bryson, J. L. Schneck, L. H. Hackman, and John Willits compose the trustee board. Head officers of the several Women's organizations are: Mrs. William Zwally, Mrs. Harry S. Stoner, Mrs. A. H. Berkenbine, Mrs. Harry Richwine, Mrs. Anna Kauffman, Mrs. L. R. Walters, and Eva Fisher. Horace W. Weaver was for many years lay representative to annual conference. Galen N. Barry currently serves in that capacity. J. Harry Hibshman, grandson of John R. Boyer who was one of the first trustees, Mary Binkley, Mrs. J. P. Burkholder, Eva Fisher, Mrs. Daisy Eitnier, Mrs. Anna Kauffman, and Mrs. Levi Beck, present members, witnessed the cornerstone laying of the second building.

From 1871 to 1877, Ephrata Church was affiliated with New Holland Circuit. The ministers were: M. J. Mumma and A. H. V. Gosweiler, 1872-73; M. J. Mumma and John H. Groff, 1873-75; and J. F. Mower, 1875-77. Ephrata was a station, 1877-79. Ministers appointed were: S. R. Grabill and Israel Groff, 1877-78; and Israel Carpenter, 1878-79. It was attached to Manheim Circuit, 1879-82, and P. A. Bowman was the minister. Ephrata has been a station since 1882, however, there were other churches attached to it until 1899. From 1882 onward, the following ministers served the charge: P. A. Bowman, 1882-84; Michael A. Salt, 1884-86; L. R. Kramer, 1886-89; J. Francis Smith, 1889-92; J. G. W. Herrold, 1892-93; J. G. W. Herrold, then A. L. Shannon, 1893-94; A. L. Shannon, 1894-96; U. S. G. Renn, 1896-99; U. S. G. Renn, then G. B. Raezer, 1899-1900; M. J.

Mumma, 1900-03; C. E. Boughter, 1903-10; J. M. Walters, 1910-16; C. A. Mutch, 1916-20; Supplies, Oct. 1920-May 1921; C. A. Lynch, May 1921-25; E. M. Rhoad, 1925-43; and LeRoy R. Walters, 1943-46.

Falmouth Church, Conoy Township

In the extreme northwest of Lancaster County lies the village of Falmouth. When Joseph Daugherty and Jacob Doerkson traveled the Lancaster Circuit in 1861 there was a class at Falmouth, and in that year it was attached to said circuit. But there is no mention of the Falmouth class in the conference proceedings from that time until the year 1889.

The county court records show that there were authorized trustees in 1888. By deed dated February 13, 1888, John Metzler, Ephraim Brinser, Abraham Cobaugh, Eli Ruth, and Aaron Bender, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ congregation at Falmouth paid one-hundred dollars for a plot of ground fronting on the public road fifty feet and having a depth of 150 feet.

A frame building costing \$1,250 was erected, and was dedicated June 16, 1889 by the Rev. H. B. Dohner, presiding elder. H. D. Lehman was the pastor. In 1922 the building was improved, a new heating plant was installed, and new carpet placed, incurring an expense of \$702. The pastor at that time was E. M. Rhoad.

In the spring of 1937, when Grant N. Miller was serving the charge, the interior was redecorated, the woodwork refinished, new pews and pulpit installed, and a beautiful painting, "Christ in the Garden," was placed in the pulpit alcove. Reopening services were held beginning Sunday, June 13, with Bishop G. D. Batdorf preaching the first sermon, and former pastors bringing the messages during the week.

The church has a membership of ninety-two, the Sunday School an enrollment of ninety-seven, with an average attendance (1945) of sixty-nine.

While the church is located in Lancaster County, its nearest neighboring United Brethren churches are in Dauphin County, with which it has been affiliated since 1888, as follows: in 1888 it was attached to Royalton; in 1889 (October), to Fishburn's; in 1891, to Royalton; in 1901, to Hillsdale, and has remained a part of the Hillsdale charge since that year.

Trustees serving at the present time are: John Dibeler, Harry Dibeler, Roy G. Feesser, Benjamin R. Fink, and Clyde Fink. These persons all have long time service in various official capacities. Additional local officers are: Roy Fishel, secretary of the Sunday School; Mrs. Marlin D. Seiders, president of the Christian Endeavor Society, Mrs. Robert Brenner, secretary and Miss Lillian Rutherford, treasurer.



Falmouth Church



Florin Church (Old)

Glossbrenner Church, Florin

This church has the distinction of being the first erected by the United Brethren in Lancaster County. The church is mentioned in our conference minutes by all the names which the village bore throughout the periods of its history. For a time there were two United Brethren churches in Florin. The site of Florin was a farm in the possession of Christian Hertzler. He laid out a part of his farm in building lots in 1812. It had on it a strong spring of water, which accounts for it receiving the name, Springville. The name was later changed to Spring Garden. In 1880 its post office name became Florin.

United Brethren preachers, beginning about the year 1834, held services in a schoolhouse which was erected in 1829. It was a small one and a half story frame building. Another school building having been erected, some public-spirited citizens enlarged the original and made use of it as a Town Hall. This building remains standing at this date.

The influence of the Revs. George Geyer and Daniel Peiffer had much to do with the beginning of our work at Florin. George Geyer Sr. resided on a farm located about a mile northwest of Florin. The Hersheys lived a mile southeast of the village. Services were held at these farm residences as well as in the school house.

The first class was organized in the year 1839. It consisted of ten persons, viz., John Geyer and wife Elizabeth, George Geyer Jr., and wife Catherine, Christian Hershey and wife Elizabeth, Charles Zeller and wife Martha, and Philip Greiner and wife. The class met for a year at the home of George Geyer. In 1840-41, services were held at the house of John Geyer, in the village, now in the possession of the descendants of George A. Geyer. A great revival was held in this home in the winter of 1840-41. When the attendance greatly increased, the place of meeting was changed to the school house. The meeting continued three months and resulted in sixty-two conversions, many of them uniting with the class.

Daniel Funkhouser was traveling the Lancaster Circuit when the class was organized. Jacob Wenger was the minister, 1840-41; J. J.

Adam Sand and Henry Stabley, 1841-42; and Christian Peffley and Henry Esensy, 1842-43. John Light was presiding elder of the district, 1840-42, and his brother Casper Light, 1842-44.

The church was built in 1842 on lot numbered 119, on Church Street, in the town plan. The ground was donated by Philip Greiner and Jacob Geyer. James Menaugh Sr., contractor, erected a brick building thirty by forty feet in size. It was in this church that the 1846 session of conference was held, which session carried out the mandate of the preceding general conference in making the Susquehanna River the dividing line between East Pennsylvania and West Pennsylvania Conference, so-named at the time. Bishop Glossbrenner presided at this session.

Names of members on an old church roll, 1860-61, number thirty-five. Another great revival was held in the winter of 1864-65. New names listed on the church roll, February 19, 1865, number thirty-eight. The church made excellent progress at that time. In 1860 a number of members of the Florin church went into the new organization at Mt. Joy. This was to be expected inasmuch as these persons lived in Mt. Joy, or in close proximity.

The congregation at Florin experienced considerable difficulty during the following decade. Forming of a German Conference in 1870 did not meet the situation at Florin. Seemingly there were a number of persons who wanted to be affiliated with the German Conference, but the geographical boundary established excluded the Florin Church from said conference. The church had four local classes, one of which was a "German Class." In 1875 this class of twenty members withdrew from the main body and formed "The German United Brethren in Christ." They never called themselves a Church. A board of trustees consisting of David B. Meyers, John Stoll, Henry P. Bear, and Andrew Stoll, bought a small tract of land from Christian Shoemaker (another of their number). It was located on the north side of the pike, in the western limits of the village. They erected a brick church. The stone in the southern gable has the inscription: "Built by the German U. B., with the help of others, 1876."

This group was served by John Lowery, 1876-77; Amos Graul, 1877-80; William Lamey, 1880-81; and Lewis Fleisher, 1881-82. The existent circumstances were from time to time brought to the attention of the annual conferences concerned and dealt with by the presiding elders, and special committees. What events took place between the year 1882 and 1889, official records do not show. The following resolution is on record:

That the First U. B. Church of Florin, now known as the Glossbrenner Chapel, be recognized as the U. B. Church of Florin.²

A second stone on the church has the following, "Ceded to the M. E. Church and dedicated, June 15, 1890." More recently the

structure has been much enlarged by the Brethren Church as one of their houses of worship.

The Rev. H. M. Miller started the movement that resulted in the erection of a new church in Florin. Construction was begun under Amos Lehman's pastorate, and finished under that of N. L. Linebaugh. The cornerstone was laid, August 4, 1907, by Dr. S. C. Enck, assisted by I. E. Runk, and pastor Lehman. The building erected of cement block, by Harry Keener, contractor, cost \$4,000. It was dedicated December 8, 1907 by Dr. Lawrence Keister of Lebanon Valley College. The Rev. Linebaugh worked very hard to complete this building.

The second building was renovated in 1928 during the pastorate of J. C. Deitzler. The pulpit was changed from the east to the west end, new pews were installed, new light fixtures and heating plant were added, at a cost of \$2,500. The church was reopened on August 5th.

Ten years later an annex of brick was added. The cornerstone was laid October 3, 1937 by the pastor, Ira W. Funk, assisted by the Rev. H. M. Miller. Dedictory services were conducted February 27, 1937. Dr. O. T. Ehrhart performed the customary rites and preached the sermon, Dr. O. L. Mease assisted. This addition added greatly to the facilities for Sunday School work, having well-arranged and well equipped class rooms in the basement and on the main floor. Its cost was \$10,171.69.

A parsonage costing \$633.71 was erected in the year 1878, during the administration of P. A. Bowman. Improvements were made to it in 1889. It was renovated and modernized in 1933 at a cost of \$1,188.

Harry C. Kotler received quarterly conference license by vote of this class, as did also Harvey K. Geyer. John F. Musselman, who has a long and distinguished career as missionary, preacher, teacher, and superintendent in our African Mission Field, is a native son of Florin and of this congregation.

Those who have served as superintendents of the Sunday School are: Henry H. Sherrick, John Booth, Samuel S. Stacks, T. N. Hostetter, George A. Geyer, H. Gainer, H. L. Stoll, N. S. Gantz, and C. E. Musselman. The Women's Missionary Association has a membership of 106.

Before the year 1867 the Florin Church was an appointment of the Lancaster Circuit. From 1867 to 1871, it was affiliated with the Mt. Joy Circuit. Its pastors were: Henry E. Hackman and William Evers, 1867-68; David O'Farrell and Gorge Stoll, 1868-69; and J. C. Mumma, 1869-71. From 1871 onward the charge is variously called a circuit or a station. The pastors during the period are: John R. Reitzel, res. and C. Seltzer Meily, 1871-72; C. Seltzer Meily, 1872-73; George A. Loose, 1873-75; Israel Groff, 1875-76; Jacob P. Smith, 1876-77; P. A. Bowman, 1877-79; Isaac H. Albright, 1879-82; J. L. Nicholas,

1882-83; L. R. Kramer, 1883-86; S. R. Gipple, 1886-89; J. G. Smoker, 1889-90; J. B. Daugherty, res. Oct. 31, 1890, then J. K. Wagner, 1890-91; J. M. Shelly, 1891-94; J. Francis Smith, 1894-96; M. A. Salt, 1896-99; H. M. Miller, 1899-1904; G. W. Shires, 1904-05; Amos Lehman, 1905-07; N. L. Linebaugh, 1907-09; Clarence Mease, 1909-12; J. B. Funk, 1912-14; Thomas Garland, 1914-16; J. E. Morrison, Ira D. Lowery, 1916-17; O. G. Romig, 1917-18; M. H. Miller, 1918-26; J. C. Deitzler, 1926-33; Ira W. Funk, 1933-44; and J. H. Dunham, 1944-46.

Green Hill Church, Conestoga Township

The Rev. Tobias Finefrock, a local preacher, felt the need for religious service for the people living in the western end of Conestoga Township. He began holding services in a schoolhouse located near the site of the present church. Later, preaching services were held in the home of Charles Campbell. A revival meeting conducted in this home resulted in the conversion of fifty-four persons, most of whom were adults.

A half-acre lot was bought for seventy-five dollars, and a frame church was erected in 1887. Daniel R. Shenk, John Clark, Joseph Aston, Michael Shenk, Joseph Rankin, Maris Gainer, and Edward Boyd, trustees, acted for the class in the purchase of the lot. The house of worship was ready for dedication in the winter of 1887-1888, but snow drifts made travel impossible so that it was deferred until June 10. Bishop Ezekiel B. Kephart officiated at the dedication, assisted by H. B. Dohner, presiding elder, and the pastor, J. F. Smith.

Henry Smith was the first Sunday School superintendent and class leader. The church had a membership of twelve, and the Sunday School an enrollment of twenty.

When W. E. Sherriff was the pastor an addition costing \$3,400 was erected to the main building to provide better accommodations for Sunday School work. Dr. H. F. Rhoad preached the sermon on the occasion of the reopening, March 5, 1933.

The church has always been attached to the Manor Circuit.

Highville Church, Manor Township

If the Highville Church had been erected in the Rev. Abraham Hershey's time, he could have reached it in a ten-minute walk from his home, for Highville Church is within a mile and a half of brother Hershey's homestead, which stands to the northwest, near Creswell. But as the groups of United Brethren worshippers were small and much scattered, and the erection of meeting houses was too remote a possibility, there were no such buildings in Manor Township until eighteen years after his death. The first to be erected was the Stehman's church, located about five miles to the northeast of the site of the Highville Church and approximately the same distance east of the Hershey farm.

The gospel seed sown by the Rev. Hershey in the neighborhood where he lived took firm root. John Stehman, the founder of

**Green Hill Church****Highville Church**

Stehman's Church, and trustee at Highville, was thirty-eight years of age when Abraham Hershey died. If by some miracle the silence of the years should break forth in declaring the good works of our early church fathers residing in Manor Township, we would know just who were the persons converted under his ministry to carry forward his work. It requires no stretch of the imagination to believe that John Stehman and his generation heard and deeply felt the gospel call in brother Hershey's time.

A quarterly conference held on the Mountville Circuit selected John Stehman, Rudolph Kauffman, and Henry Manning Jr., trustees for a church at Highville. They bought three-fourths of an acre of ground along the public road from Creswell to Safe Harbor—a spot "beautiful for situation," from Adam Frey and wife Mary, at the cost of fifty dollars. The deed is dated November 7, 1868. The cornerstone has the date 1868. A year later, Adam Frey was elected in the place of Rudolph Kauffman, and was also elected class leader. Daniel Frey was class steward.

On May 1, 1869, the trustees made the following report on finances, dealing with the new church, to the session of quarterly conference:

Whole amount, cost of church, \$3,390.50; amount of cash collected, \$1,719.30; to be collected on subscriptions, \$1,280.46; due the treasurer, beside the above unpaid subscriptions, \$171.20; whole amount of debt, \$390.74.

John Eberly was the first Sunday School superintendent. Abraham H. Kauffman was the minister. Fifty-one members were reported at the close of the year, 1869-70. According to presiding elder reports, the church was renovated in the years 1881, 1887, and 1901.

At the 1932 session of annual conference the boundary committee recommended that Highville Church become a separate charge.

The congregation felt that it was strong enough to launch out as such, and conference passed the recommendation. Ralph H. Wolfe, who had been pastor of the circuit, was then appointed to the new charge. It had a membership of 217, a Sunday School enrollment of 315, with an average attendance of 208.

Nearly eleven acres of ground located north of the Creswell-Safe Harbor Road were purchased in 1923. Approximately four acres were retained for church use. A large, modern brick parsonage was constructed, providing for every comfort a pastor might desire. It was dedicated January 22, 1933 by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent. The cost of construction was \$6,523.66, of which amount \$3,016.66 was raised in cash and subscriptions. A frame building, twenty by thirty feet, was erected at the western end of the grounds. It serves as a garage and, in addition, provides room for equipment incident to outdoor social and recreational activities.

In the fall of 1937 the congregation purchased and installed a new Hammond electric organ, costing \$1,410. Dr. Enck dedicated the organ January 9, 1938. Five years later improvements were made to the interior of the sanctuary, shrubbery was planted, and a new bulletin board erected. Anniversary exercises were held September 12, 1943.

Trustees serving the congregation at the present time are: William Eshleman, Harry Eshleman, Harvey G. Frey, John Herr, Willis K. Shaiebly, David W. Frey, and C. Lester Gehr. Officers of the church organizations are as follows: Class Leader, David W. Frey; organist, Mrs. James Stoner; Sunday School: Raymond E. Frey, superintendent, Edna Mae Glick, superintendent of Juniors, Charles Herr, secretary, Kathryn Shaiebly, pianist, Albert Eshleman, treasurer, Mary Shaiebly, Cradle Roll superintendent, Mrs. C. R. Swartz, Missionary superintendent, and Earl Shaiebly, chorister; Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. C. R. Swartz, president, Mrs. Walter Burket, treasurer, Mrs. Earl N. Frey, secretary, Mrs. James Stoner, pianist; Otterbein Guild, Miss Edna Swartz, president, Miss Grace Keperling, treasurer, Miss Anna Mary Swartz, pianist, and Miss Mary Stoner, secretary.

Samuel Stoner, Charles W. Wolfe, and Ira C. Keperling have received quarterly conference license by vote of this congregation. C. R. Swartz was appointed to this charge in 1943. He is giving much time to supervising surveys and making studies of rural-church areas as secretary-treasurer of the East Pennsylvania Conference Commission on Town and Country Church. His activities have extended to other conferences.

Ministers serving the Highville church prior to the time when it was constituted a separate charge are found under the following circuits: Mountville, 1868-75; Conestoga, 1875-85; and Manor, 1885-1932.

Hopeland Church, Clay township

The section of Lancaster County in which the Hopeland Church is located was more or less open territory for the preachers of the three circuits which surrounded it. It cannot, therefore, be definitely stated who the first preachers were to come into the vicinity of Hopeland. Samuel Seiders, appointed to the Berks County Circuit in 1845, preached in the barns of Gideon Weidman and Jacob Snyder during that year. In the spring of the following year Simon Noll preached at Gideon Weidman's on a Sunday evening, and that was the beginning of a revival meeting which continued for some weeks. The meeting was held on the premises of Jesse Pannabecker, a member of the German Reformed Church. It resulted in eighteen conversions, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Landis, parents of Dr. J. P. Landis, who for many years was connected with the work of Bonebrake Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio.

These converts, with some others, were organized into a class of charter members consisting of: Joseph and Veronica Snyder, Gideon and Judith Weidman, Joseph and Caroline Landis, John and Polly Geise, Jesse and Kate Pannabecker, Peter and Margaret Fidler, Christian and Margaret Dullabohn, William and Susan Richardson, Samuel Ruth, Sr., and Sarah Ruth, Henry and Catherine Cassabalm, and David and Sarah Carpenter. The minds of the members turned to the need for a house of public worship. Jesse Pannabecker, Joseph Snyder, and Gideon Weidman were elected by the quarterly conference of the charge to erect a building. A deed dated June 21, 1847 shows that the above trustees bought 170 perches of ground at the cost of thirty-one dollars, from John Lowry and wife Elizabeth, and the church was erected and dedicated in that year. The Rev. Noll remained on the charge until the spring of 1848, and received sixty members during the two-year pastorate.

Hopeland is a rather recent name for this church. It was first named Pannabeckers, after one of its trustees. Mr. Pannabecker withdrew from the congregation in 1859 and all the money he contributed toward the erection of its building was returned to him. In the boundary committee report of 1860 it is called "Stone Church." The building was constructed of stone, consequently, from a material viewpoint, it bore a well-deserved name for a short time. It was built against a hillside. There was a basement, well-lighted and airy, in which a free school was conducted until the erection of the first school building in Newtown in the year 1880. However, the Rev. Noll who began a second pastorate with these people in 1860, did not like the name "Stone Church." He called it Paradise Church, and it retained this name until the year 1910 when Hopeland first appears in conference proceedings. The village, situated a half-mile northward, called Newtown, later was changed to Hopeland.

In 1889, under the pastorate of the Rev. A. L. Shannon, the original church building was practically rebuilt and enlarged at a cost of three thousand dollars. It was dedicated free of debt, October 27,

1889 by Dr. C. J. Kephart, president of Lebanon Valley College, assisted by H. B. Dohner, conference superintendent. John H. Miller, Jacob H. Hackman, Hiram L. Erb, David M. Weidman, and George Ruth constituted the board of trustees.

The congregation made extensive improvements to its house of worship in 1909, and was rejoicing in the experience of material and spiritual prosperity when a calamity suddenly came upon it. Lightning struck the building on the night of March 6, 1910, and it was completely burned out. A brick building, costing seven-thousand dollars, was erected to take its place. The board of trustees acted as a building committee: Evan S. Wolf, David Wertsch, S. H. Stump, George Ruth, and John H. Miller. The new edifice was dedicated November 13, 1910 by Dr. I. H. Albright, assisted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent. The Rev. B. M. Breneman led the people through the alternating dark shadows and bright sunshine over a period of four years.

During the pastorate of W. E. Shoop, 1913-17, a parsonage was constructed, and, by improvements made upon it from time to time, it has been made into a very desirable manse. The parsonage lot is separated from the church lot by an east and west road. During M. B. Groff's terms of service a metal ceiling was placed in the church, a choir loft built, and the entire interior of the church redecorated.

G. Jay Umberger was appointed pastor in 1935 and remained with the congregation six years. During his administration changes were made in the area west of the original property. In 1936 ground across the Clay-Hopeland road was purchased. With the cooperation of the Department of Highways, the said road was relocated, eliminating a dangerous curve by the church cemetery. By the assistance of the Works Progress Administration and the diligent labor of the men of the church and the community, the area was properly graded, and it made a great change in the setting of the church property and its environs. The entire project cost the congregation \$4,267.27 in cash, but in actual value was worth considerably more. Two years later a stone wall was built about the yard of the parsonage grounds at a cost of \$608.40.

The spiritual progress of the Hopeland Church has kept pace with its material advance. All departments of work are well organized. Considerable interest has been shown in dramatics. The latest presentation, during the One Hundredth Anniversary Celebration, June 8-15, depicted the origin of the United Brethren denomination, and that of the Hopeland church in particular. In very recent years foreign work has been supported which called for funds above the assessed benevolent budget.

Plans were made during the pastorate of Clair M. Hitz to make certain improvements consisting of the installation of a new heating system, renovation of the Primary room, providing room for the heating plant, a Sunday School room, and an organ chamber. These plans were carried out during the early months of the pastorate of



Hopeland Church



Ironville Church

A. L. Haeseler, who was appointed in the fall of 1946. A new Moller pipe organ costing \$4,156 was dedicated at the time of the centennial celebration.

Gideon Weidman, one of the first trustees, was a member of annual conference, 1851-76. He preached locally, and was a very great help to the local church of which he was a member, serving faithfully in various capacities. The Revs. S. C. Enck, H. M. Miller, and F. E. Druckenbrod were recommended for quarterly license by vote of the Hopeland class. Dr. Enck's biography will appear at another place in this volume. The Rev. Henry Milton Miller, son of John H. and Susanna Fidler Miller, was born at Hopeland March 2, 1866. He united with this class at the age of sixteen years. He attended West Chester State Normal School, and Lebanon Valley College. He received ministerial credentials as follows: quarterly license, 1887; annual license, 1889; and elder's orders, 1896. He served one student charge and six full-time pastorates. From 1926 to 1941 he was Field Secretary for Quincy Orphanage and Old People's Home. He won many friends for said institution and through friendly solicitation many thousands of dollars have been contributed toward its support. On September 8, 1946, he fell asleep in the Lord.

Ministers who served this church are found under the following circuits and stations: Berks County Circuit, 1845-55; Pannabecker's Station, 1855-56, Samuel Seiders; Sinking Spring Circuit, 1856-59; Myerstown Circuit, 1859-60; Sinking Spring Circuit, 1860-68; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1869-71; Sinking Spring Circuit, 1871-73; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1873-74; Brunnerville Circuit, 1874-75; Paradise Circuit, 1875-82; Ephrata Circuit, 1882-83; Paradise Circuit, 1883-86; Ephrata Station, 1886-89. Since the church has been a station, first, Paradise Station, then Hopeland, the names and terms of pastors are as follows: A. L. Shannon, 1889-90; J. G. W. Herrold, 1890-92; D. S. Eshelman, 1892-93; M. E. Bachman, 1893-95; W. W. Fridinger, 1895-98; G. F. Bierman, 1898-1900; I. N. Seldomridge, 1900-01; Charles Bauer, 1901-02; S. M. Hummel, 1902-07; B. M. Brenneman, 1907-13; W. E. Shoop, 1913-17; N. I. Fake, 1917-23; Clarence Mease, 1923-25;

R. E. Morgan, 1925-28; M. B. Spayd, 1928-30; M. B. Groff, 1930-35; G. J. Umberger, 1935-41; Clair M. Hitz, 1941-46.

Intercourse Church, Leacock Township

United Brethren work centering about the Christopher Grosh home and the Ranck's Church spread southwesterly to the village of Intercourse. Services were held in the Old Pond Schoolhouse beginning about the year 1839. Later, the worshippers met in private homes, among which were those of Catherine Zook, and Mr. and Mrs. David Ranck. The members of the first class were: Charles and Mary Sweigart, John, Mary, and Charlotte Miller, David Ranck, Christian Fink, Catherine Zook, and John and Julia Church.

Trustees were elected by a quarterly conference held on the New Holland Circuit of which the class was a part. In 1850 William Given, Daniel Weidman, and Augustus Rodgers drew up plans and specifications for a brick building thirty by thirty-five feet, making a written statement covering every detail. This very interesting document closes with:

The house is to be finished on or before the third day of December, Anno Domini, 1850. . . . Given under our hands, at Intercourse, the 15th day of June, A. D. 1850.³

A comment may be made here which would be apropos to scores of similar building projects during the middle of the last century. When once these church fathers made up their minds to build, they actually got at it and proceeded with dispatch.

The three men above mentioned were grantees for a deed, dated May 19, 1851, whereby a plot of forty-six and one-half perches of ground was transferred by David Ranck as grantor, for the cost of fifty dollars. The deed shows that a church had already been built upon the ground bought. It was located on the east side of the road branching off southwardly from the Old Philadelphia Pike. Daniel Weidman, the reader will recall, was a son-in-law of Christopher Grosh, and a member of Ranck's Church. The pastor at the time was Jacob Brewer.

A plot of ground adjoining the church lot on the south was donated to the church by David Ranck, and in 1871 the original building was enlarged by adding ten feet to its length. A steeple was erected and a bell placed therein. Reopening services were conducted in the fall of the year by the Rev. Lewis Peters, presiding elder, and the pastor, M. J. Mumma. A house next to the church, on its left, was bought in 1892 for use as a parsonage.

Three years later solicitation for funds was begun with a view to build a new church edifice. H. M. Miller came to the charge in that year. The response was good and building operations began. The building committee consisted of: A. R. Kurtz, H. M. Miller, J. E. Zook, I. N. Parmer, and John M. Beam. This building was completed by late fall and dedicated to sacred worship by Dr. C. J.

Kephart, December 20, 1896. Beautiful memorial windows replaced the originals in 1906, when W. H. Boyer was pastor. They are memorials to the following persons: Augustus Rodgers, Mrs. A. M. Hoar and children (by Newton C. Hoar), Stella and Paul Plank (by Abraham and Park Plank), David Ranck and wife (by J. B. Hutchinson and wife), H. B. Slack and family, John K. Diem and family, Jacob Davidson and family, and John N. Beam and family.

This congregation which is rapidly approaching its centennial anniversary has from time to time taken note of its beginning by special anniversary services. We have before us the program and souvenir booklet of its Semi-Centennial Anniversary, June 9-16, as prepared by Z. A. Weidler, pastor, 1900-01. Dr. S. D. Faust of Union Biblical Seminary preached two sermons on June 9. Speakers during six nights of the week following were: the Revs. I. M. Groff, M. A. Salt, William Beach, P. A. Bowman, S. G. Kauffman, and Dr. H. U. Roop. All but the last mentioned were former pastors. On June 16, the Revs. M. J. Mumma and H. M. Miller, also former pastors, preached. In the afternoon neighboring pastors, the Revs. A. K. Wier and J. G. Smoker, made brief addresses.

The church register of officers was as follows: Class leader, John B. Hutchinson; church trustees: John E. Ellwerth, Joseph Murr, John Beam, Peter Plank, and A. R. Kurtz; parsonage trustees: J. Frank Brubaker, Samuel B. Sauder, and A. R. Kurtz; Sunday School officers: John N. Beam, John E. Zook, Miss Bessie Slack, and Miss Nettie Diem; Young People's officers: John B. Hutchinson; H. B. Slack, Miss Mary Rodgers, J. M. Beam, and Miss Elsie Hoar; Ladies' Aid Society: Mrs. S. B. Sauder, Mrs. Z. A. Weidler, Mrs. H. L. Hoar, and Charles M. Slack; Stewards: H. B. Slack, I. N. Parmer, S. B. Sauder, J. E. Ellwerth, J. E. Zook, J. W. Beam, and Charles M. Slack.

Trustees serving at the present time are: Leonard Miller, George Littlejohn, J. Earl Ranck, Gordon Kling, and Durward Shirk. Officers of the several departments of the church are: Sunday School, J. Earl Ranck, George Littlejohn, Jane Kling, Katie Loar; Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. John L. Smoker, Agnes Rutter, Mrs. Durward Shirk; Otterbein Guild, Cora J. Kling, Mary V. Kling, Virginia Lichty; and Ladies' Aid Society, Mrs. George Littlejohn, Agnes Rutter, Mary Rutter.

Prior to 1875, ministers serving the New Holland Circuit, and probably earlier, the Lancaster Circuit, were pastors at Intercourse. From 1875 onward ministers serving the charge were: John K. Fisher, 1875-77; John D. Killian, 1877-79; J. S. Riddle, then Israel Groff, 1879-80; Israel Groff, 1880-81; E. L. Hughes, 1881-83; J. N. Munden, 1883-84; J. N. Munden, then S. D. Faust, 1884-85; Lewis Peters, 1885-86; M. A. Salt, 1886-88; P. A. Bowman, 1888-Feb. 89; Z. C. Mower, Feb. 1889-Oct. 89; Z. C. Mower, then M. P. Sanders, Oct. 1889-90; M. P. Sanders, 1890-91; C. G. F. Miller, 1891-92; S. G. Kauffman, 1892-95; H. M. Miller, 1895-99; William Beach, 1899-1900; Z. A. Weidler, 1900-01; C. E. Boughter, 1901-03; J. E. Keene, 1903-04; F. L. Stine, then

G. B. Renshaw, 1904-05; W. H. Boyer, 1905-06; Clarence Mease, 1907-08; H. M. Klinger, 1908-09; M. H. Wert, 1909-11; W. H. Peiffer, 1911-13; H. E. Ulrich, 1913-14; Ira W. Funk, 1914-16; M. V. Fridinger, 1916-20; M. L. Gable, 1920-25; Ira D. Lowery, 1925-26; S. G. Haas, 1926-30; S. L. Rhoads, 1930-34; Ira D. Lowery, 1934-38; and John L. Smoker, 1938-46.

Ironville Church, West Hempfield Township

The village in which this church by the same name is located, received its name from the fact that there was a blast-furnace close by, on the west, and upon the northeast a large deposit of hematite iron-ore. The village is one of a half dozen or so of small clusters of homes scattered over the "Chestnut Hill," a continuous range of hills bordering on the Susquehanna River at Chiques Rock and extending across Hempfield Township in an eastern direction. The mining and manufacturing industries added a considerable number of inhabitants to the earlier population which consisted of farmers cultivating small plantations.

The furnace was known as "Cordelia Furnace," which accounts for the naming of "Cordelia Circuit." In this immediate neighborhood lived the Rev. John Christian Smith. Here his son Gideon was born, who traveled the Lancaster Circuit in the years 1827-28, and 1831-32. The work and influence of these men evidently formed the background for the United Brethren work in West Hempfield. Forty years before the church was built, Christian Newcomer on several occasions visited at the house of the Rev. Smith Sr. At the southern base of Chestnut Hill lived the family of John Forry, Mrs. Forry being a niece of Newcomer. He very frequently stopped there.

The deed for the church lot specifies that the title was vested in the "Trustees of the Society of Religious Congregation styled the United Brethren of Chestnut Hill, in West Hempfield Township." This lot was located a half mile west of the present church, immediately south of the Reading and Columbia Railroad. An aged citizen of the community pointed out to the writer the spot where this building stood. An old atlas verifies the location. Curtis Gray sold twenty-five perches of ground for the consideration of one dollar to John Huber, John B. Stehman, and Jacob Eshleman, trustees. Huber and Stehman were also trustees of the Mountville church, which establishes a connection between the two churches. John B. Stehman was the son of the Rev. John Stehman whose name comes up in connection with several other congregations. Eshleman was of the local community. The church was erected in 1857.

The following names compose the church roll, 1861-62: Christian M. and Sarah Morgan, George Rettew, M. A. and Sophia Ried, Aaron R. and Christian Lutz, Elizabeth Mellinger, Elizabeth Detweiler, Frederick, Lydia, and Barbara Gramm, May A. Hinkle, Catherine Leamich, Mary A. and Anna Conklin, Grace A. Meldrum, Fannie Eshleman, Joseph and Sarah Dellinger, Catherine and Mary Hogen-

doubler, Anna Bruckhart, Mary Neff, Edmund and Susan Hawthorn, Ebby Runyon, Henrietta Irvin, Elizabeth Brennan, Susan Kauffman, Henry and Mary Moore, Charles and Anna Swammer, Elizabeth Brown, and Henry May.

Trustees through the earlier years, following the organization of the class, were: Edmund Hawthorn, M. A. Ried, Christian M. Morgan, Aaron R. Lutz, Henry May, Lewis Mohn, Jacob Bard, John Kauffman, Jacob Walborn, and William Way. Some of these brethren also served in other local church official positions.

A new site was purchased in 1871. This, located in the village, contained one acre of ground and cost the congregation five-hundred dollars. A well-kept cemetery is located within the area. A new frame building was erected in 1871. This building was repaired and refurnished in 1889. Reopening services were held September 15. S. R. Gipple was the pastor. The expense incurred, together with a former obligation, was secured. The main building was enlarged, electric lights were installed, and new carpet laid, in the year 1925. The conference superintendent, Dr. S. C. Enck, assisted by the pastor, A. W. Dambach, conducted reopening services, November 28. Sufficient funds to cover the expense incurred amounting to \$2,-085.69 were provided.

No one looking at the building now would suspect that this was once a frame building. In 1934, the original was veneered with brick. A well-lighted basement was constructed for Sunday School work. New pews were placed in the sanctuary. The clear-glass windows were replaced by stained glass. The building has a very attractive and modern appearance. W. C. Blatt, pastor, with the cooperation of his people, brought this enterprise, costing \$5,733.76, to a successful completion. Appropriate services were held June 24. Five years later a new Hammond Organ was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Metzger. The young people of the Sunday School bought a new Lester piano. The total value of these presentations was \$1,850.

The present church membership numbers 189. Excellent work is being done in all departments, as the following memberships show: Vacation School, 49; Intermediate C. E., 50; Women's Missionary Association, 35; Otterbein Guild, 30.

Pastors appointed to the following circuits or charges served this church: Lancaster Circuit, 1856-62; Columbia, 1862-64; Mountville, 1864-67; Ironville Mission, Rev. J. Francis Smith, pastor, 1887-88; Florin, 1888-91; Marietta, 1891-95; Chestnut Grove, 1895-96; Mt. Joy, 1896-1901; Centerville, 1901-04; Silver Spring, 1904-05; Centerville, 1905-06; Cordelia, 1906-07; Centerville, 1907-18; Florin, 1918-19; Columbia, 1919-25; Silver Spring, 1925-46.

Lancaster City Churches, Introductory

The permanent work of our denomination in Lancaster City

begins with the year 1884. But in every decade, beginning with the year 1800, our ministers preached in the city, and during one period at least, we had full possession of a house of worship. Our leaders keenly felt the need of missionary work within the city and recognized the strategic significance of a church in a city where father Otterbein held an important pastorate. However the rural background of our preachers and laymen, during the early period, did not lend itself to successful handling of an urban situation. This explains, for the most part, why eighty-three years of organized denominational work passed into history before we had a permanent hold in Lancaster. It was a circumstance not peculiar to Lancaster, but one that was common to our efforts in other cities.

No censure is intended in making this statement; it is merely a statement of fact. In trying again and again success was attained, our leaders showed that they had the stamina and genius to overcome handicaps and to cope with difficult problems. When once the proper technique was followed, the work grew by leaps and bounds. The devotion of our Lancaster congregations, their amazing growth, and generous promotion of general Kingdom interests, more than compensate for earlier failures.

Christian Newcomer preached occasionally in Lancaster during the years 1802-17. Under date of September 2, 1824, he states that he and William Brown preached at night in Elliot's Meeting-house. This house of worship stood opposite the old passenger depot of the Pennsylvania Railroad, on Chestnut Street between Queen and Duke Streets. John Elliot, a reform Methodist, came from England in 1816 and settled in Lancaster. His preaching won some followers who, with him, erected a little frame building on the above mentioned site, which was dedicated May 12, 1822. In a newspaper announcement dated March 23, 1824 this building is styled: "The Union Schoolhouse and Church of all Christian denominations (more generally known by the name, Mr. Elliot's Church)." Several writers refer to it as "The Little White Church on Chestnut Street."

The efforts of our brethren to establish a congregation in Lancaster, and the changing occupancy of the little frame building, form a parallel story. Elder John Winebrenner, founder of the Church of God, came to Lancaster in 1828 and preached in Elliot's Church. The Rev. Elliot and most of his congregation accepted the views of Elder Winebrenner and embraced his faith. In 1832 Mr. Elliot withdrew his support of Winebrenner and left the city.

In the year 1833 William Brown was elected a Bishop of the United Brethren Church. He presided at the session of the Old Conference held April 8-11, 1834 at Greencastle, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. At this session he agreed to preach in Lancaster in connection with his work of the bishopric.⁴ The following year Ezekiel Boring was appointed by annual conference to serve Lancaster Station.⁵ These two men used Elliot's Church.

Following Boring's term the circuit preachers continued some

time in holding meetings in the same church. During the same period Elder Winebrenner began holding stated services in said church. When his congregation increased he erected a church building on the southeast corner of West Orange and North Prince Streets, in 1841. Sometime later a part of the congregation seceded and came back to the old church and held meetings there as an independent group.

In 1854 this group expressed a desire to join the United Brethren, and asked that an English preacher be appointed to serve them. Conference responded by instructing the presiding elder to appoint a man as soon as they had joined our body. The minutes are silent on the matter of the group uniting with us, but the statistical report at the close of the year shows that Jacob Shaffner had served the class and he reported a membership of sixty. John Q. Adams was appointed in 1855. He was followed by Jacob S. Kessler, who served two years.

The Rev. Kessler wrote a detailed account of his experiences with this congregation.⁶ He says: "He found there a small church edifice owned by the United Brethren in Christ, in which the brethren had worshipped some twenty-five years previous." He also states that a debt was resting upon it, but that his predecessor, the Rev. Adams, secured a clear title to it. We have not been able to find on record a deed of transfer of this property to United Brethren trustees, so this point remains in question.

The conference of 1857 supplemented Kessler's very meager salary paid by the charge with an appropriation of two-hundred dollars. He opened a small school and continued teaching several months, hoping by the income it would afford to make ends meet. The mission was supplied during the latter part of the year 1858-59 by the Rev. Lewis Peters, and served by him the next full year-term. In 1860-61, the circuit preachers, Joseph Young Jr., and Jacob Doerkson were in charge.

During the terms of these two men a lot was bought fronting sixty feet on Mulberry Street, and extending along Grant Street thirty-three feet. The trustees were Daniel Smeych, Frederick Nixdorf, John Block, George Miller and John A. Smith. A frame church building was erected. David Strickler was pastor for one year, 1861-62. From 1862 to 1870 the appointment was shifted several times from Lancaster to Mountville Circuit, and vice versa. Its membership decreased, and financial obligations could not be met. In 1867 the lot and building were sold to the Evangelical Association for the sum of \$1,500. After debts were paid there remained in the hands of the trustees the sum of \$657.43. A quarterly conference held during the year 1869-70 appointed Ezekiel Light, presiding elder, John Huber and John B. Stehman to hold the funds.

A few months later the house of worship was sold and the Conference committee on Houses of Worship recommended the erection of another building. Then eleven years passed before the matter of

a church in Lancaster again came before conference. A committee was appointed to locate a new mission, and an appropriation of one-hundred dollars was made. A preacher was appointed, but he did not serve, and the plans were not carried out. The presiding elders during the immediately succeeding years continued to point out Lancaster as a promising field, but nothing of consequence happened until the year 1884.

Lancaster Covenant Church

On the evening of April 4, 1884, a group of devoted followers of God gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Grabill, 56 South Duke Street, Lancaster, to lay the foundations of a work that was destined to grow to large proportions. To S. R. Grabill is due the credit that this time the attempt was successful, and so his name has gone down in the history of Covenant Church as its human founder. In a direct and forceful appeal he solicited the interest and aid of the East Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Annual Conferences, in joint session in York, Pa., February 27-March 3, 1884. The report submitted to the committee, and adopted by the conferences, contains the following paragraph:

It is proposed that the members of our church in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, and especially in the bounds of this conference unite with the worthy members of the church in Lancaster city in entering into a solemn covenant to establish at an early date a United Brethren Church in this city, pledged to maintain and preserve the spirit of true worship as practiced by Otterbein, Boehm, Newcomer and their co-laborers; and that said church be recognized as the Covenant United Brethren Church of Lancaster city.

This act not only resulted in hearty cooperation and financial aid, but it gave to the new church its name, "Covenant," which has been so deeply cherished by many hearts through the years. M. J. Mumma was appointed as pastor and an appropriation of five-hundred dollars was voted to support the project.

The first quarterly conference, in charge of the Rev. Isaiah Baltzell, presiding elder, was held March 17, 1884. At this session the purchase of the Salem Church of God property was authorized, said purchase to be made through a committee of the board of trustees provided for at the session of the annual conference held at Harrisburg two years previously. This board consisted of A. Hershey, Gordonville; S. N. Eby, Mt. Joy; Levi Heist, Oregon; J. B. Stehman, Mountville; and S. R. Grabill, Lancaster. The purchase price was \$3,950. Having secured a clear title, S. R. Grabill paid four-hundred and fifty dollars down, and a mortgage of \$3,500 was placed on the property. Needed repairs advanced the cost to \$4,171. The property was held in trust by the board of trustees until paid for and then deeded January 1, 1887, to the United Brethren denomination. It was dedicated February 6, 1887, by Bishop Jonathan Weaver.

The net cost to the conference in establishing the work on a self-sustaining basis was \$2,291.75. In the first nine years of self-support the church paid back to the conference \$7,226.45, which represented a gain of 4,934.70. It is interesting to note that when the project was first launched, Mr. Grabill had stipulated that the "lot or building must be paid for before proceeding with pastoral work."

A meeting for organization having been called, the newly appointed pastor, M. J. Mumma, presided. The following persons were enrolled as charter members: S. R. Grabill, Mrs. S. R. Grabill, D. D. Good, Mrs. D. D. Good, H. H. Keen, and daughter, Miss Maude Keen; Mrs. Lewis Peters and daughter, Miss Minnie Peters, George Eckert, and Mrs. George Eckert. All honor to these noble servants of Christ who started a work that shall ever stand as a monument to their wisdom, faith, and courage, and devotion to Christ and the Church.

On the same evening, April 4, 1884, that the organization of the church was effected, a Sunday School Association was formed by the election of the following officers: superintendent, S. R. Grabill; assistant superintendent, H. H. Keen; secretary, D. A. Peters; treasurer, D. D. Good; primary superintendent, Mrs. S. R. Grabill. The first session of the school was held on April 6, 1884, with seven children and twenty-one adults. By the end of that year the enrollment was eighty-seven, and at the end of the fourth year, 187, with sixty in the primary department.

For a period of forty-two years the congregation worshipped in the old church on the southwest corner of Orange and Concord Streets. The remarkable growth of the church and Sunday School created a demand for larger and more modern facilities for carrying on the work. The creation of a building fund in 1909 constituted the initial step in the new building enterprise. Through definite and systematic methods of giving, this fund was increased through the years, until a very substantial sum was realized. In the meantime the property on the northwest corner of West Orange and Mulberry Streets was purchased for \$34,000 as a future location for the new building. Ground was broken April 27, 1925, and on September 6, the corner-stone was laid by the conference superintendent, Dr. S. C. Enck. A year later, October 3, 1926, the new church was dedicated by Bishop William M. Bell. The cost stood at \$250,000, but all indebtedness having been provided for, no special appeals were made during the week of dedication, only free-will offerings were lifted. This was also true in the dedication of the old church, which simply means that throughout its history the church was not hampered in its emphasis upon spiritual verities by burdensome debts, leaving it free to give more liberally to the benevolent interests of the church.

The spacious edifice of red brick with cast-stone trimming, semi-Gothic in architecture, has a sanctuary which seats 535. The interior, with its solid walnut furnishings and beautiful art windows, presents a very chaste and refined appearance. The organ, at a total



Lancaster Covenant Church

cost of \$23,100, was installed by the Cassavant Bros., Canada. It is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Straub in memory of Mrs. Straub's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Eckert, charter members of the congregation. The main Sunday School room, with its seventeen classrooms, has a seating capacity of 750. Several church offices are located on the main floor. The basement floor provides rooms for the Children's division classes, has a large social room, a fully equipped kitchen, and a reading room.

The personnel of the Building, Advisory, and Executive committees in charge of the church building project were: C. L. Grabill, H. R. Lefever, Dr. O. T. Ehrhart, Jack L. Straub, M. H. Brackbill, E. W. Coble, Harry Druckenbrod, B. W. Fisher, S. R. Grabill, T. N. Hostetter, George Luttenberger Sr., W. W. Maley, Daniel Piersol, John Piersol, D. T. Rife, E. K. Shoop, E. C. Westenberger, and Harry Wissler. The Rev. Dr. Ehrhart, pastor of this church since 1920, has given exceptional qualities of leadership to all phases of the work of this great church. Mention of his other specific work will appear in a later chapter.

The first parsonage, purchased February 1889, for twelve-hundred dollars, was located at 354 West Orange Street. Twenty-eight

hundred dollars was paid for the second at 332 West Orange Street in September 1899. In April, 1919, the property at number 344, on the same street was purchased, costing \$6,500, and this was the pastor's residence until 1939 when the present manse at 937 West Walnut Street was secured for the sum of \$13,250. It was dedicated September 17, 1939 by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent.

The missionary passion resident in the heart of S. R. Grabill was injected into the life of the church from the beginning and nurtured through the years. Covenant's missionary spirit and zeal has figured very extensively in her rapid growth and achievements, and affords an excellent example of what can be accomplished when the "Great Commission" of our Lord is taken seriously. At the same time it should be said that she has given full support in a liberal fashion to all other interests of the denomination. Her abiding interest and liberal support in the missionary enterprises has enabled her to do this in a more adequate manner.

The following have gone out from Covenant as missionaries: Miss Beulah Funk, China; Miss Florence Mease, China; Miss Clara Ruthart, Syria; Miss Grace Winger, South America; Miss Ella Ruhl, China; Rev. C. A. Funk, China; the Rev. J. F. Musselman, Africa; Miss Erna Rife, Africa; Miss Janet Druckenbrod, South America.

The spiritual status of the church has had its impact upon the hearts and lives of the following who have entered the ministry from its ranks: William Stokes, Ohio M. E. Conference; John Sprecher, Oregon U. B. Conference; I. N. Seldomridge, East Pennsylvania Conference; J. F. Musselman, Missionary to Africa, East Pennsylvania Conference; J. R. MacDonald, East Pennsylvania Conference; C. A. Funk, Missionary to China, East Pennsylvania Conference; Moses Brackbill, Presbyterian Church; P. W. Hawthorn, Missionary to New York Indians; Daniel Felker, Central Pennsylvania M. E. Conference; Carl Y. Ehrhart, East Pennsylvania Conference; Robert W. Etter, East Pennsylvania Conference; Calvin R. Miller, East Pennsylvania Conference.

The following pastors have served Covenant Church: M. J. Mumma, 1884-86; J. B. Funk, 1886-89; E. L. Hughes, February-October, 1889; C. W. Hutzler, 1889-93; E. A. G. Bossler, 1893-1907; A. R. Myers, October, 1907- May, 1908; C. E. Pilgrim, May-October, 1908; I. Moyer Hershey, D.D., 1908-11; G. D. Batdorf, 1911-20; O. T. Ehrhart, D.D., 1920-46.

Lancaster Otterbein Church

The increase of population in the northern limits of Lancaster City, and in Manheim Township immediately adjacent, has been very rapid in recent years. The city's population in 1900 was 42,800; in 1940 it had increased to 61,345. Much of this increase was in the northern area. Some of the city's most beautiful homes are located there. Covenant Church, in seeking to do home missionary work,

and at the same time concerned to conserve its membership in the north end, selected that section of the city in which to establish a second church. In 1929 the Pennsylvania Railroad changed the course of its main line to run across the northern end of the city, and erected a new passenger depot about three blocks north of Clay Street, on which the second church, known as Otterbein, is located. It has proved to be an exceedingly wise choice.

The congregation had its inception in a Sunday School which was organized September 7, 1902, in a rented dwelling at 820 North Queen Street, by the Rev. E. A. G. Bossler, pastor of Covenant. The attendance at the first session was thirty-five. The officers elected were: J. B. Withers, superintendent; Clayton H. Hertzler, assistant superintendent; Miss Florence Mease, secretary; D. D. Good, treasurer; and Miss Elizabeth Campbell, organist. In December of the following year, the house at No. 733 North Queen Street was purchased for Sunday School purposes, at a cost of \$3,042, of which amount Covenant Church paid \$1,700. The School moved to the new location, April 3, 1904.

In the fall of that year J. B. Funk was appointed pastor of this new work. The Rev. Bossler, pastor of Covenant, organized the first class consisting of twenty-four members from his church, on November 27, 1904. In the evening of the same day, the Rev. Funk received into membership forty by confession of faith and five by letter of transfer. At the close of the year the church membership had grown to eighty-eight, and the Sunday School to 170.

Ground was bought on East Clay Street and a Chapel and Sunday School room erected thereon in 1905. The cornerstone was laid June 18, and the service of dedication held November 26, 1905. The cost of the structure, including value of ground, was \$6,763. A. G. Nye was appointed to Otterbein Church by conference in the fall of 1906, at which time also the church was constituted a separate charge, having been until then under the quarterly conference of the mother church. During his pastorate the property at No. 731 North Queen Street was purchased at a cost of \$2,450 in 1908. An addition to the chapel was erected and improvements were made on the original building, incurring an expense of \$3,446.30. This structure was dedicated May 22, 1910. Pastor Nye remained with the congregation until conference session of the year 1911. He reported to that session a church membership of 191, and a Sunday School enrollment of 384.

All church building and ground indebtedness was cancelled by January 1, 1915. A building fund for a future new sanctuary was begun in 1916 while J. E. Keene was pastor, and in the same year Otterbein Church became self-supporting. The purchase of additional ground from time to time, the earlier more or less temporary quarters for the Sunday School, and the erection of a Chapel, were but preliminary steps to a later climactic achievement. Formulating in the minds of the people and pastors was the vision of a modern



Lancaster Otterbein Church

temple of worship. The vision was translated into reality under the directing heart and mind of the Rev. Charles H. Holzinger, who became pastor of the church in the fall of 1918.

The dwellings located at Nos. 727, 729, and 731 North Queen Street, were razed to make room for a new edifice. Appropriate ground-breaking services were conducted May 11, 1925. Dr. O. T. Ehrhart read the Scripture, the Rev. S. G. Kauffman offered prayer, and pastor Holzinger delivered an address, in the presence of about two-hundred people. The cornerstone was laid by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, August 16. Approximately eighteen months after ground-breaking, the structure was ready for dedication. Bishop William M. Bell dedicated this beautiful sanctuary to the worship of God on Sunday afternoon, October 10, 1926. The Bishop also preached at the morning service, and Dr. Enck in the evening. During evenings of the following week the following former pastors preached. Bossler, Funk, Nye, Rhoads, and Keene. On the Sabbath of the 17th Dr. Ehrhart preached at morning worship, and the Otterbein Church choir presented a program of music in the evening.

This temple of worship is all one might desire in architectural beauty and worship appointments. It is of Gothic design, constructed of Seesholtzville granite. The auditorium has a seating

capacity of six hundred, and the basement 450. A large vestibule connects the church and chapel buildings, providing interior passing from one building to another. The persons who composed the Building Committee were: The Rev. Holzinger; R. D. Pegan, C. H. Hertzler, A. F. Witmer, E. F. Conrad, N. B. Heiss, C. J. Hilton, H. F. Shopf, M. E. Whitzel, J. B. Withers, J. M. Witmer, and J. A. Wolf. The building cost \$107,182.93.

The Rev. H. F. Rhoad became Otterbein's pastor in 1928. All church and parsonage debt have been completely wiped out under his devoted ministry. In recognition of the victory, special services of prayer and praise were conducted January 9 to 21. During Dr. Rhoad's pastorate, also, three special gifts have been made. Mrs. Josephine Heisey donated a three-manual Skinner organ, valued at twenty thousand dollars, in loving memory of her deceased husband. The instrument was consecrated by Bishop G. D. Batdorf, June 1, 1930. Bishop Batdorf also dedicated Carrollonic Tower Bells and hearing-aids for the hard of hearing, May 10, 1942. These were provided by a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Josephine Heisey.

The first parsonage was located at No. 729 North Queen Street. This house was purchased in December 1914, at a cost of \$1900. Ten years later a three-story brick dwelling at 113 East Clay Street was bought for a permanent parsonage. The cost of this property was ten thousand dollars.

Spiritual advancement in all departments of church life has paralleled material progress. In 1925 the church began supporting Dr. A. D. Cook, who was in charge of the Ramsburg Hospital, Siu Lam, China. The present representative abroad is Miss Gladys Ward, also serving in our China Mission Field. The annual financial budget for Dr. Cook was \$625; that of Miss Ward, \$700. These amounts are specials over and above the regular benevolent budget apportionments allotted by annual conference. The following persons have been voted quarterly conference license: G. Edgar Hertzler, 1927; Earl E. Wolf, 1927; Blanche Lengle, 1930; and John A. Witmer, 1940. The church membership at the close of the year 1945 was 841.

The Sunday School has had continued growth. It now numbers 940, with an average attendance of 381. The school has had but three general superintendents: J. B. Withers served 23 years; H. F. Shopf, 17 years; and the present incumbent is A. E. Kamm. Plans are in preparation for a new Christian Education building. The Hertzler family has already established a fund of five-hundred dollars which they will increase as the plans and the project go forward. It is a Memorial Fund in esteem of the devoted head of the family, the late Clayton H. Hertzler, who for many years was a church school teacher, and layleader.

Pastors who served this church are: E. A. G. Bossler, 1902-04; J. B. Funk, 1904-06; A. G. Nye, 1906-11; S. L. Rhoads, 1911-14; J. E. Keene, 1914-18; C. H. Holzinger, 1918-28; and H. F. Rhoad, 1928-46.

The Rev. Charles Henry Holzinger, D.D., pastor of the congregation from October 7, 1918 to February 2, 1928, was born June 19, 1888 at South Bethlehem, Northampton County, Pa. He was a member of Grace Church, Allentown, when licensed. He was granted annual license in 1910 and received elder's orders in 1918. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, class of 1916, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1918. During student years he served Allentown Grace, Refton and West Willow, Mont Clair, and West Lebanon Churches in East Pennsylvania conference; and Providence and Jacksonville of the Presbyterian Church, in New Jersey. The Rev. Holzinger died at the early age of thirty-nine years, seven months, and fourteen days. He literally sacrificed his life in service to his church. The writer once heard him preach, using the text—"Where there is no vision, the people perish." The thoughts therein expressed characterized his ministry. The clearness of a well-modulated voice, and the sparkle of his blue eyes accentuated the force of his message. He had deep convictions, and was courageous in giving expression to them. In approach he was affable, in social contacts, winsome.



Limeville Church



Mt. Zion Church

Limeville Church, Salisbury Township

Limeville and Mt. Zion Churches constitute Pequea Charge. Both are located in Salisbury Township, Limeville in the southern part, Mt. Zion in the northern. The headwaters of Pequea Creek have their sources in the northeastern limits of this township, and the Old Philadelphia Road crosses the township east and west. Along this road, in the village of White Horse, formerly Pequea postoffice, stands the parsonage. The Rev. Frank E Druckenbrod has been the efficient and much beloved pastor of this rural parish for a period of twenty years, 1926-46.

The Rev. J. C. Mumma was appointed to the New Holland Circuit in 1878, and conference instructed him to open an appointment at White Horse. At the close of the year he reported having opened five new appointments. Pequea Valley Mission was created in 1879 and Z. C. Mower was assigned to it. It consisted of appoint-

ments at Millwood, Harristown, Springville, Meadville, Slaymakersville, and Limeville. Of these, the appointment at Slaymakersville was soon abandoned. Springville was also dropped and Spring Garden was taken up. The Harristown class had a brief existence.

The Millwood Class, through its board of trustees, pastor Z. C. Mower, William Hamilton, Addison Benedict, David Doutrich, Jeremiah Futer, Daniel Warfel, and John Berkey, bought 152 square perches of land in 1879 and erected a house of worship costing one thousand dollars. The church was burdened with debt and had to be sold in the year 1883. The cornerstone is now in one of the porch pillars at the residence of Mrs. John Wenger at Millwood.

Limeville Class was the only one of the six appointments established in 1879 which had a continued existence. A church building was begun in 1881 and was dedicated free of debt, May 22, 1882. The trustees at the time of its erection were Z. C. Mower, John H. Robinson, Israel Doutrich, Christ K. Kurtz, and Millard E. Barr. This building was totally demolished by a cyclone on July 18, 1891. Nothing was left but the foundation. The trustees met in the Limeville schoolhouse two days later and planned to build immediately. Services were held in the Limeville Schoolhouse for five months, when on December 27, 1891, the new church was dedicated by Bishop E. B. Kephart.

Prior to 1901 there was no parsonage on the charge. At a quarterly conference held in the Limeville Church, December 16, 1901, authorization was given to buy a house and lot in the village of White Horse. Thomas J. Martin and T. N. Steely of Mt. Zion Church, and E. M. Barr and J. H. Robinson of Limeville Church, were elected as parsonage trustees. This arrangement was afterward changed. Limeville assumed full ownership, and Mt. Zion paid rent at the rate of one-half of four percent on the amount of property value.

Limeville has a church membership of 174; the Sunday School enrollment is 113. The present board of trustees consists of: Milton Berkey, Chester Rhoads, Charles Miller, Amos Montgomery, Roy Zander, John H. Baxter, and Wayne Berkey. Pastors serving this church will be found under Pequea Valley Circuit and Pequea Charge, except for the year 1887-88, when it was on Mt. Pleasant Circuit.

Lititz, Erb Memorial Church

Mention of a preaching appointment is first made in annual conference minutes of the year 1886 when Lititz Mission charge was constituted, embracing Brunnerville, Oregon, Shissler's and Lititz. G. A. Loose served this charge two years. In 1888 Brunnerville and Lititz were made a charge and Isaac Becker, a local preacher and member of Hopeland Church, was appointed. From February 1889 to October 1890 Lititz was an appointment on Lancaster Circuit. A. M. Hackman was its minister, February 1889 to October 1889, and

J. W. Boughter followed him. In 1890 Rev. Boughter was appointed to Lititz Circuit, then composed of Lititz, Brunnerville, Oregon, and Neffsville.

On March 9, 1890, while serving Lancaster Circuit, J. W. Boughter organized a class of sixteen members at Warwick, as the community north of the Lititz Borough line was then called. The charter members of this class were: Isaac and Isabella Becker, William, Alice and Samuel Ruth, Elias, Kate, Henry, and Ellen Weaver, Christ and Leah Mohn, Harvey and Ida Buffenmoyer, Sister Adams, Harriet Becker, and John Perry. The Rev. Becker and wife Isabella and William Ruth were formerly members of the Hopeland Church. The other charter members were converts of a revival meeting held by the Rev. Boughter in the "Old Brewery" which stood on the southwest ridge of the Lititz Springs Park. The newly organized class continued holding services in this building for several months, following which period services were held in members' homes in Warwick until a church was erected.

At a quarterly conference held at the home of Christ Mohn in Warwick early in the year 1890, steps were taken to build a house of worship. Isaac Becker, William Ruth, and John Perry were appointed trustees who, with the Rev. Boughter, constituted the building committee. A lot located on East Front Street (now Cedar Street), then near the borough line, was purchased from Wilhelmina Kreiter for four-hundred dollars. The cornerstone of the building was laid Sunday, September 6, 1891 by M. J. Mumma, presiding elder; and the edifice was dedicated by Bishop E. B. Kephart, December 20, 1891. The cost of the lot, building and furnishings was \$2,800. It was a frame structure with a finely proportioned bell-tower and spire. The windows were a gift from the Lititz Moravian congregation. Of these, one was a beautiful stained glass window with the inscription: "Give to Our God All the Glory."

Several items relative to the Lititz Church hold considerable historic interest. The Lititz Express, issue of December 24, 1891, states that the United Brethren Church was erected "On the former site of the Moravian Church in these parts." The Rev. J. C. H. Light submits the information that,

On the site where the auditorium of the present church now stands there stood an old frame dwelling built in the year 1813 from material of the first Reformed Church at Brickerville which had been erected in the year 1748, and some of the lumber of this old building was used in the building of the United Brethren Church at Lititz.

The old wooden Brickerville Church stood about a half mile south of the village. It was used as a hospital for wounded soldiers during the Revolutionary War, and some of the soldiers who died in the church are buried in the adjoining cemetery. The wooden church was replaced by a brick structure in the year 1813, which is still standing and used occasionally.

The Lititz Church, according to the inscription on a marble slab placed in the east gable, was erected in memory of Bishop Jacob Erb, who was born May 25, 1804. Bishop Erb's mother, Elizabeth Hershey Erb, was a sister of the two brother ministers, Abraham and Christian Hershey, whose careers have been related in earlier pages. Christian Erb and wife Elizabeth Hershey, lived on a farm near Lititz until the year 1810, when the family moved to Cumberland County on a farm located directly opposite upper Harrisburg. Christian Newcomer lodged at the house of Christian Erb on the night of May 7, 1800. On that day a Great Meeting began at the home of Abraham Kauffman. In the years 1797 and 1798, Newcomer visited at the home of Peter Eby who also lived in Warwick Township. His second visit to Peter Eby's home was on the occasion of a Great Meeting held there. Leaving Lancaster on the morning of June 2, 1798, he stopped at Lititz on his way to the Eby farm. Concerning his visit at this place, he writes:

Today we came to Lititz, visited the preachers in this place, and received a friendly reception.

Though he does not say that these "preachers" were Moravian brethren, such they no doubt were, inasmuch as he makes comment on the religious condition of the "brethren and sisters" among them.

A parsonage board of trustees, consisting of Isaac Becker, Daniel M. Weidman, representing the Lititz church, and T. Jefferson Hartranft, representing the Brunnerville Church, was elected in 1892 for the purpose of building a circuit parsonage to be located in Warwick. These men purchased a lot thirty-five by two hundred feet, located opposite the church, costing \$175. When completed, the house was first occupied by the Rev. C. G. F. Miller and family. During the pastorate of J. M. Walters, the parsonage was remodeled and enlarged at a cost of \$1,250. A three-car garage, costing \$750, was built on the rear of the parsonage lot during the administration of Ira W. Funk.

The original church building erected at Lititz served the congregation without any major alterations until the time of J. E. Keene's ministry, 1909-14. During his term the building was raised two feet, a basement placed under the entire structure, and a steam-heating system was installed. While Ira Funk was pastor, a building fund was established with a view to provide larger facilities. The Sunday School which had been organized one month after the first church building was erected, had grown to such size that more room became a necessity.

Definite plans for a building project had their origin in 1932. The board of trustees, consisting of James A. Seaber, Harry R. Wertsch, Nathan D. Sturgis, Roy G. Meyers, Daniel M. Weidman, Ira A. Eberly, and Harry E. Showers, together with the pastor, J. C. H. Light, were named a building committee. Purchases of additional ground were made in 1927 and 1933. Architectural plans submitted



Lititz Church-School Building

by the company of Lehman and Seibert, Myerstown, Pa., were accepted. Ground was broken for a new Church School building, June 4, 1933, Mrs. Adam Hornberger, the oldest member of the congregation, turning the first shovel of earth. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, laid the cornerstone September 10, 1933. The building was dedicated at the evening service, February 18, 1934, by Bishop G. D. Batdorf. Services throughout the day were largely attended, and fully 1,500 persons inspected the building during the day.

The Church School building is of granite limestone from the Quaker State Quarries, Hershey, Pa., and in structure follows the Colonial style of architecture. It is two stories high, with basement and sub-basement, built on the north and west of the original structure, and so connected with it that its sanctuary and the assembly room of the Adult department, when the curtain between them is opened, will seat five hundred persons. The layout is modern in design to take care adequately of departmental work. Each department has its own assembly room with class rooms. Scholars of any department may go from a main entrance of the building directly to their own assembly room without passing through any other department. A completely equipped kitchen, a Boys' Club room, a recreation room, and such additional rooms,

equipment and furnishings as go into the making of a complete plant of this nature, are in the basement. An Everett Orgatron with chimes was purchased by the Young Men's Bible Class taught by Roy G. Meyers, and placed in the sanctuary in 1939.

The cost of the new building, remodeling of the old, and furnishings, was \$32,402. By the time of the tenth anniversary of dedication of the new building, \$25,700 had been paid on indebtedness, and five thousand dollars on interest. From that time forward to September, 1946, when a "Mortgage Burning Service" was held, all remaining debt, plus \$2,014 over the required amount, was raised. This last event took place while Paul A. Miller was pastor. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, preached the sermon and performed rites appropriate to the occasion.

J. C. H. Light was pastor of the Lititz congregation over a period of twenty years. 1925-45. He gave untiring and masterful leadership to this building enterprise, as well as diligent and effective service as pastor and preacher. His achievements at Lititz are a crowning glory to an active ministry which extended over a period of forty-nine years and four months. Due to a heart attack May 6, 1945, he could not actively serve the congregation for the remaining months of that conference year. He was voted the relation of a retired elder at the conference session following. He and his companion live in retirement at Lititz, musing over events of the past, though still maintaining a keen interest and active participation in the work of Christ and the Church in proportion that physical strength permits. The Rev. Light received quarterly conference license by vote of the Zion Church, Reading, Pa., in 1894, where his father, the Rev. Job Light, had sometime served as pastor. He was ordained at the 1895 session of the East German Conference, and transferred to Iowa Conference in 1897. In that conference he served the following charges: Columbus City, Hudson, Sumner, Muscatine, and Cedar Rapids in the state of Iowa, and Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was superintendent of said conference, 1915-18. In the latter year he came to East Pennsylvania.

Ministers serving the Lititz church are as follows: George A. Loose, 1886-88; Isaac Becker, 1888-89; A. M. Hackman, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; J. W. Boughter, 1899-92; C. G. F. Miller, 1892-98; C. G. F. Miller, P. A. Bowman, 1898-99; P. A. Bowman, 1899-1901; S. S. Daugherty, 1901-09; J. E. Keene, 1909-14; S. G. Haas, 1914-16; C. S. Miller, 1916-19; J. M. Walters, 1919-22; Ira W. Funk, 1922-25; J. C. H. Light, 1925-45; and Paul A. Miller, 1945-46.

Manheim, Salem Church

Two of our pioneer preachers, George A. Geeting Sr., and Christian Newcomer, came to Manheim in the year 1799 and held an afternoon and an evening meeting in the Reformed Church. On three other occasions Newcomer returned to preach in Manheim.

His last appearance was in the year 1818. He mentions the family names of Meyer, Hackman, Nauman, Boyer and Gingrich, as those whom he contacted on his visits to Manheim and its vicinity.

A quarter of a century later there was a group of people in and near Manheim who opened their homes to itinerant United Brethren preachers serving the Lancaster Circuit. This group desired to have a house of worship. In the northern limits of the Borough of Manheim lived a cooper by the name of John Musser who, on May 17, 1843, sold a plot of ground fronting fifty-seven feet on North Prussian Street and extending westward to a depth of 270 feet, to Christian Shoemaker and Michael Witman, "trustees for the Society in the Borough of Manheim, called the Impartial Christian Brethren."⁷ The use of the word "Impartial" carries with it the same significance as when it is used elsewhere. This group of worshippers, like some in other localities, were slow to come fully under United Brethren rules and practices.

While there is some difficulty in explaining how property deeded under such a title could become United Brethren property without deed of transfer, nevertheless, the leaders of this group and those associated with them, later formed the United Brethren congregation at Manheim. It is well known that the church building in which our people later worshipped stood on this site. Furthermore, there is in existence a church membership roll, beginning with the year 1861, consisting of fifty-three names, on which appear, among others, the names of Christian Shoemaker and Michael Witman, the same who were parties to the transfer of the lot in 1843. These men with their families lived in Rapho Township. Michael Witman and wife Anna are buried in the Shoemaker Cemetery along the Old Line Pike, as also the parents of Christian Shoemaker who, with his wife Elizabeth Hershey, moved to the farm immediately west of Florin, in 1867.⁸

Other family names in this early record are: Young, Ruhl, Fass, Ensminger, Shires, Gantz, Shelly, Fry, Gensemer, Keener, Miller, Diffenderfer, Barns, Ehrhart, Wissler, Deyer, Swartz, Landis, Brubaker, White, Musser, Eby, Dowhower, Shifer, Embich, Simmon, Nixdorf, and Bear.

The first building erected on part of lot No. 322 as laid out by the famous "Baron" VonStiegel, is said to have been constructed of stone. It was replaced by a brick structure in 1868, a building still standing, which for many years was used as a Town Hall. The congregation had great difficulty in holding this brick building because of debt. The presiding elders frequently reported this situation to annual conference. Finally, George Eby of the Mt. Joy region was appointed agent to raise money toward payment of the debt. But the property could not be held. Another lot, a very short distance south of the first church, was later bought and a frame church erected in 1883, costing \$2,300. A house was purchased in the year 1889 for use as a parsonage. It was located next to the

church property on the south. Both church and parsonage were in use until the new church plant was erected in 1910-11.

The congregation experienced a greater measure of spiritual and material prosperity while occupying the frame building. The building, after about two decades, became inadequate and a more centrally located site seemed to be desirable. In 1905, under the pastorate of A. S. Lehman, the trustees purchased a three-story brick dwelling with a lot of considerable depth on the southwest corner of East High and South Prussian (now South Main) streets,



Manheim Church

for the sum of \$5,500. This building was razed and work begun on the erection of a church and parsonage. The cornerstone was laid during the summer of 1910 by presiding elder, D. D. Lowery, assisted by H. J. Behney, pastor. The new edifice was dedicated by Dr. Lowery, January 22, 1911. The Rev. Behney did a yeoman's job in securing the necessary financial aid and in directing construction policies for this new venture.

A number of improvements have been made since its erection. In 1926 the interior of the church was painted and frescoed, indirect lighting was installed, and the interior of the parsonage painted and papered, costing four thousand dollars. A. L. Haeseler was the pastor. In 1933 a basement was constructed under the main building which greatly increased Sunday School facilities. The

project cost \$3,549. A special service was held October 22, in charge of the pastor, O. R. Brooks; and Dr. Enck, conference superintendent performed consecration rites. Certain improvements were made and a Hammond organ was installed in 1939, at a total cost of \$2,465. Dr. Enck dedicated the organ February 5th.

In the thirty-four years since occupancy of the new church, the membership has increased from 272 to 672. The Sunday School enrollment for the year 1945-46 was 720, and there was an average attendance of 450.

Architectural plans are in preparation for a new Education Building to be erected on East High Street.

The present trustees of Salem Church, Manheim, are: President, Samuel Helt; vice president, Clarence Cassel; secretary, Clayton Buch; treasurer, David Hummer; Paul Goss, Walter Shearer, and John Hummer.

The Manheim congregation was under the pastoral service of those who served the following circuits: From its beginning until 1866, Lancaster Circuit; Mt. Joy, 1866-71; in 1871 Manheim was constituted a charge. Its pastors since then have been: J. R. Meredith, 1871-72; Jacob F. Smith, 1872-74; S. R. Gipple, 1874-76; I. H. Albright, 1876-79; P. A. Bowman, 1879-82; Jeremiah P. Smith, 1882-84; D. D. Lowery, 1884-87; G. W. Lightner, 1887-88; U. S. G. Renn, 1888-89; L. R. Kramer, 1889-93; S. C. Enck, 1893-98; M. E. Bachman, 1898-1900; I. Moyer Hershey, 1900-01; I. Moyer Hershey and P. A. Bowman, 1901-02; P. A. Bowman, 1902-03; A. S. Lehman, 1903-07; H. F. Rhoad, 1907-09; H. J. Behney, 1909-16; M. H. Wert, 1916-17; A. L. Haeseler, 1917-26; I. D. Lowery, 1926-29; O. R. Brooks, 1929-39; I. N. Seldomridge, 1939-42; and H. M. Tobias, 1942-46.

Manor, Stehman's Memorial Church

Among the lovely hills and valleys of northern Manor Township stands the Stehman's Memorial Church, named for its founder. Scattered over these hills and valleys are splendidly kept farm buildings, well-cultivated fields, and verdant meadows, interspersed by groves of magnificent trees. On one of these elevations, with the West Branch of the Little Conestoga on its northern slope and the Indiantown Run on its southern slope, was the farm of John Stehman, whose father's name also was John, and whose mother was Elizabeth Brubaker. He was the first of a line of four generations which perpetuated the best traditions of United Brethrenism.

In this community, two and one-half miles southeastwardly from its nearest town, Millersville, lived a certain Christian Herr, whose house was a center for United Brethren itinerants. Here also lived Reuben Kauffman. At his house John Stehman and wife, Anna Herr, were converted. This was about the year 1839. It was the beginning of a spiritual work which led to the formation of a class and the erection of a house of worship.

John Stehman (1801-1877) joined annual conference in 1842, held in Funk's Schoolhouse, northern Dauphin County, and was ordained three years later. The need for a church was seen and its erection contemplated by brother Stehman. One day, while visiting his mother-in-law, she remarked to him: "Well, John, when will you build that church?" This brought him to a decision, and the church was erected in 1857. Anna Herr Stehman had inherited a share of her father's estate, a fine farm of 136 acres. Her name appears first in the deed by which she and her husband transferred one fourth acre for the nominal sum of one dollar to the trustees of the United Brethren in Christ Church. The trustees were: John Huber, Jonas Garber, and John Binkley. This deed, dated August 1, 1859, was made about two years after the church had been erected. It states specifically that a brick church had already been built upon the ground sold.

John Huber and Jonas Garber, parties to the deed, were members and trustees of the Mountville Church. A son of the late Rev. Stehman, also named John (1827-1916), married Anna Garber. The Stehman's Church was attached to the Mountville Circuit, 1863-75. There were evidently some strong bonds between the two churches. John Binkley, here mentioned, was a young layman of the Stehman's Church. In the year 1864, the quarterly conference of the circuit granted him quarterly conference license and recommended him for annual license, which he received in 1865. He was ordained in 1868. Nearly all of his active ministry was given to churches in Lebanon County. He was born January 20, 1833, and lived to the good old age of eighty-five years and twenty-eight days. His body rests in Lebanon Ebenezer Cemetery.

William Hummel, Abraham Stehman, Christian Mellinger, and the Rev. H. H. Stehman were among the early class leaders. Hiram R. Witmer, Emanuel Frey, J. Lauyer, J. Ripley Stauffer, and Benjamin Bear were stewards. Rudolph Kauffman and H. H. Stehman were local ministers, members of the congregation. A H. Kauffman (1815-97), an ordained minister of the M. E. Church, was received into quarterly relation at the Stehman's Church, February 8, 1868. He received annual license and was ordained by the United Brethren in 1872. He served a number of conference churches. Dr. O. T. Ehrhart, long-time pastor of Lancaster Covenant, was converted at Stehman's and held membership there.

The first church edifice was located at the northwest corner of the cemetery. In 1892 the erecting of a new building was taken into consideration. On March 2, 1896, a building committee consisting of the following persons was organized: S. G. Kauffman, minister, as president; A. B. Witmer, secretary; William Sneath, Isaiah Hess; and trustees, H. R. Witmer, Z. R. Witmer, Jacob Newcomer, Benjamin Bear, and David F. Binkley. In the same year the new church was erected on a new site on elevated ground about three-hundred feet south of the former building. It was constructed of brick at a cost of three thousand dollars. The Rev. C. J. Kephart



Stehman's Church



Newtown Church

dedicated the sanctuary December 13, 1896. A vestibule and bell-tower were added in 1913 during the pastorate of Martin Groff. The church bell was donated by Mary Ann Keepert in memory of her son and parents, Christian Book Keepert, Miles Binkley Keepert, and Mary Ann Keepert.

Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Sneath donated a half-acre of ground, upon which lot a brick parsonage, valued at eight thousand dollars, was erected. The committee in charge were: G. W. Hess, pastor, E. O. Sneath, Charles M. Witmer, A. B. Witmer, C. H. Eshleman, John T. Denlinger, Elmer W. Walk, and George F. Baker. Many hours of labor were donated by members, reducing by about two-thousand dollars actual cost in cash. It was dedicated June 22, 1924, by Dr. A. K. Wier.

Another very desirable addition was made to the church property by the purchase of four acres of ground adjoining property already held. This extra space serves well for parking and outdoor social meetings. Buildings which house equipment for such use as may be desired have been erected. The entire setting is very attractive and very wisely planned. The church is ready to serve the strictly rural community in which it is located. In 1946 the Young Men's Class of the Sunday School sponsored the improvement and equipment of a third classroom in the basement of the church. Plans are underway for providing additional rooms.

Robert W. Etter, present pastor, won the decision of the judges and a prize of fifty dollars by submitting the best sermon on rural work to the Department of Town and Country Churches, Pennsylvania State Council of Churches, in the spring of 1946. In the fall of the same year the fiftieth anniversary of the erection of the present sanctuary, and the eighty-ninth anniversary of the erection of the first, were observed by a week of special services.

A complete list of pastors will be found under the following circuits with which the church has been affiliated: Lancaster, prior to 1861; Mountville, 1861-75; Conestoga, 1875-85; and Manor, 1885-1946.

Mountville, St. Paul's Church

Isaac Rohrer laid out a town of one hundred and thirty building lots on the Lancaster and Columbia turnpike, four miles east of Columbia, in the year 1814. He named the place Mt. Pleasant, because of its commanding view of the surrounding country. Mr. Rohrer reserved two lots for public use. Upon these lots, located to the rear and a few rods east of the present parsonage, Mt. Pleasant's first church was erected with money raised by lottery. This building was open to any denomination which desired to use it. The pioneer United Brethren preachers took advantage of this opportunity after services for a time had been held in an old still-house on the farm of John Huber, one mile north of town.

Adjoining the town lots on the west and south of the turnpike, lay a farm of ninety acres which was the property of a certain Jacob Sherk. Mr. Sherk died in 1844, and the following year his farm became the property of his sons-in-law, the Rev. Jacob Erb, who had married his daughter Elizabeth, and the Rev. Daniel Funkhouser, who had married his daughter Susanna. The Rev. Erb was then Bishop of the Eastern Bishop's Area of the Church, and resided at Baltimore, Maryland. The Rev. Funkhouser was serving churches in Virginia.

The Rev. Daniel Funkhouser, born February 18, 1809, joined the conference in 1834 and was ordained in 1837. He served Lancaster Circuit, 1834-35, and 1838-40. He did a great deal of pioneering in Eastern Pennsylvania by way of opening new appointments and establishing the brethren in the faith. In 1841 he transferred to the Virginia conference, but returned again to East Pennsylvania in 1847. Eleven years later he transferred membership to Pennsylvania Conference. He died August 31, 1869. His body was laid to rest in the Salem United Brethren cemetery, Rocky Springs, Franklin County, Pa.

These two men sold to the Mountville class a half acre of ground out of the above farm, by deed dated June 11, 1846, for the nominal sum of one dollar. Trustees named in the deed are: John Huber and Jonas Garber. Local informants state that a church building constructed of brick burnt on the Sherk farm, was built on the above plot in the year 1845. Henry Staub and Simon Noll were at that time pastors of Lancaster Circuit.

The church was attached to Lancaster Circuit until 1862, when for one year it was placed to Columbia Circuit. Lewis Peters was its minister, Jacob Sneath was class leader, John Huber was steward; and John Huber, Jonas Garber, and John Marks were trustees. Jacob H. Witmer had exhorter's license, and John White, local preacher's license. Mountville Circuit was created in 1863. Though

named a station in 1875, it retained the nature of a circuit until 1887. Robert Sneath replaced John Marks as trustee in 1866, and John Weller replaced Robert Sneath in 1870.

John B. Stehman, son of the Rev. John Stehman of Stehman's church region, married Anna, the daughter of John Garber. This couple moved to Florin, taking an active interest in the church there. In 1867 they took up residence in Mountville. Mr. Stehman was elected class leader at Mountville in 1868, and served in other official capacities, always supporting the work of his church until his death in 1916. Their son, Jonas G. Stehman (1850-1933) became a member of the Florin Church at the age of fifteen, was elected Sunday School superintendent at Mountville in 1884, which office he held until 1929, when he was elected superintendent emeritus. In the local church he was also steward, class leader, and president of the trustee board. For many years he represented his church as lay delegate to annual conference. He was a lay delegate to the General Conferences of 1905 and 1909. Mr. Stehman was a trustee of Lebanon Valley College and a director of the Mt. Gretna Camp-meeting Association.

At a quarterly conference held in 1869, the trustees of the church were instructed to remodel the old church or to erect a new church as they saw fit, that the needs of the community might be met. They decided to build a new church. Lots were bought from Henry Wolf. The location of these lots was on the north side of the highway, the site of the present parsonage. A brick edifice, thirty-five by seventy feet, was erected, with a large basement for Sunday School purposes. It was at that time considered one of the best churches in the conference. The building was completed in the year 1870 and dedicated on the first Sunday of December by Bishop Jonathan Weaver. Rev. Isaiah Baltzell was minister of the congregation.

In the spring of 1885 there still remained a debt of three-thousand dollars. Through the heroic efforts of the pastor, H. B. Dohner, and Jonas Garber, together with the support of members and friends of the church, the debt was cancelled that year. The same year one hundred new members were added to the church. In 1886, under Esdras Ludwig's leadership, the church was refurnished with new carpet, new pulpit furniture, and new seats in the room of the primary department of the Sunday School. Two years later, during the pastoral term of J. A. Lyter, this second church building was completely renovated and refitted. New pews were placed in the sanctuary and a new steam heating system was installed. The Sunday School was graded and separate departmental quarters provided.

Mountville's third church building was erected in 1905-07, on the site of the first building; the ground having been sold in the meantime, was repurchased, now at a cost of one thousand dollars. The cornerstone was laid July 23, 1905 by Dr. Lowery, presiding

elder; the church dedicated by Dr. W. R. Funk, publishing agent, September 22, 1907. The building, fifty-six by eighty-eight feet in size, built of granite from the quarries at Derry, presents a dignified appearance. The Mountville congregation led the pace in the matter of building a stately structure of stone, combining the best features of classical architecture, durability, worship, and Sunday School facilities.

J. M. Walters was pastor while these plans were formulated and executed. The trustees at the time were: J. H. Witmer, R. M. Friday, J. G. Stehman, H. S. Immel, J. R. Gable, John H. Lehman, and J. M. Weller, who, together with A. B. Fisher and the pastor, constituted the building committee. The total cost, including the beautiful memorial windows and doors, was fifty-seven thousand dollars. In 1924 the basement was enlarged and fitted out for Sunday School work and social functions, and other improvements were made on the sanctuary, costing fourteen-thousand dollars. Dr. Enck, conference superintendent, and D. E. Long, pastor, conducted reopening services, November 23.

In 1877 the presiding elder reported: "A large, convenient, and beautiful parsonage has been substituted for the old one at Mountville." This house was used as a pastor's residence until 1909, when, under the pastorate of Dr. R. R. Butterwick, a commodious and well-arranged brick parsonage was erected at a cost of five-thousand dollars.

This congregation has marked the stages of its spiritual and material progress by periodically observing anniversary occasions. Such in recent times were: the eightieth anniversary of its first building, in 1925, D. E. Long, pastor; and in 1929, the eighty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the class, and the eightieth of the Sunday School, S. T. Dundore, pastor.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of the congregation was observed by appropriate services over the period, April 30-May 7, 1944, under the direction of pastor Mertis V. Fridinger. The Rev. Fridinger's pastorate, 1933-46, exceeds in length that of any other serving the Mountville congregation. During his administration the choir assumed the responsibility of adding chimes to the organ in 1937; and the last debt remaining on making improvements was paid in 1940.

Because of its influential laymen, the Mountville church has played a vital part in the founding of churches at Ironville, Stehman's, Lancaster Covenant, Centerville, and Silver Spring.

Mrs. Anna B. Fridy, member of this congregation, served as president of East Pennsylvania Conference Branch Missionary Association for a period of twenty-six years. Miss Edith M. Fridy, daughter of Reuben and Catherine Stehman Fridy, member of the congregation, represented her local church for a term of five years in the school for girls at Moyambia, West Africa. Other repre-

sentatives in foreign fields have been Miss Ida Brenneman, and Mrs. C. C. Witmer. Miss Jessie Hoerner is at present supported by this Church.

Since the time when the church was detached from the Lancaster Circuit, the following have been its pastors: Lewis Peters, 1862-65; W. R. Coursey, 1863-65; G. A. Lee, 1865-66; Israel Carpenter, 1866-67; W. S. H. Keys, 1867-68; W. S. H. Keys, and A. H. Kauffman, 1868-69; A. H. Kauffman, 1869-70; Isaiah Baltzell, 1870-75; J. C. Mumma, 1875-77; Israel Carpenter, 1877-78; E. L. Hughes, 1878-81; M. J. Mumma, 1881-84; H. B. Dohner, 1884-86; Esdras Ludwig, 1886-88; J. A. Lyter, 1888-92; Z. A. Weidler, 1892-94; G. L. Schaeffer, 1894-96; A. L. Shannon, 1896-98; J. T. Schaffer, 1898-1900; D. S. Eshleman, 1900-03; J. M. Walters, 1903-08; R. R. Butterwick, 1908-16; O. L. Mease, 1916-18; D. E. Long, 1918-25; S. T. Dundore, 1925-33; and M. V. Fridinger, 1933-46.

Mt. Joy, St. Mark's Church

The classes at Eby's, Florin, and Mt. Joy, had a common and a similar origin—a common origin in that they rose out of the same rural constituency. When finally organized, these classes were within a radius of one and one-half miles of a common center. That center was the farm of George Geyer Sr., located a very short distance north of the "Cove," along the Little Chiques Creek. The similarity of origin was that after first conducting services in private homes, each in its particular community had services in a schoolhouse.

The Mt. Joy worshippers met in the Old Bell schoolhouse, which, like the one at Florin, was used by several denominations.⁹ The class was organized in 1860 while Joseph Young and Jacob Doerkson traveled the Lancaster Circuit. A church roll of the year 1860-61 shows the following to have composed the class: Rev. John G. Clair and wife Susan, Philip Greiner Jr. and wife Martha, George Geyer Jr., and wife Mary Eby, Samuel S. Royer and wife Catherine, Joseph, Anna, and Elizabeth Good, Henry and Anna Coble, John, Elizabeth, and Jacob Keener, Catherine Greiner, Martin and Rebecca Stoll, Jacob and Anna Hummer, William Kline, Jacob and Harriet Flowers, Mary Greenewalt, Samuel Frey, Catherine Sherbone, and Mary Herchelrode.

George Geyer Jr., was the leader of the class and Samuel S. Royer was its steward. Though without a house of worship, the class increased from year to year. It remained attached to Lancaster Circuit, which at the time was composed of congregations at Eby's, Elizabethtown, Florin, Manheim, Mt. Joy, Newtown, and Ruhl's. Lewis Peters was circuit preacher in 1864-66. During his terms he had permission to hold services on Sunday afternoon in the Lutheran Church. The membership now having increased to sixty-three in number, the need for a house of worship was felt, as expressed by a local official as follows: "In the year 1866, it

pleased God to awaken the hearts of Brother George Geyer (Jr.) and others in the vicinity to the unavoidable necessity of having a suitable house erected for the worship of the Lord our God."

The quarterly conference appointed a committee to find a proper location and to raise money. The committee reported to the next quarterly, held May 25, 1867, a possible site, and that \$2,700 had been secured in subscriptions. The following were appointed trustees: George Geyer Jr., Samuel S. Royer, George Eby, John Miller, and John Shroff, who, by deed dated June 5, 1867, were granted a lot fronting on the Lancaster and Harrisburg Pike, forty-six feet, and extending northward a depth of 180 feet, more or less, at the cost of four-hundred and fifty dollars. A two-story brick building thirty-eight by sixty feet was erected. The cornerstone was laid by Ezekiel Light, presiding elder, assisted by W. S. H. Keys, pastor at Mountville. Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner dedicated the edifice January 19, 1868. H. E. Hackman and W. B. Evers were the ministers serving the newly created Mt. Joy Circuit in 1867. The building cost approximately \$6,600.

Several years after the church was completed a parsonage was added to the property. In 1872 the house and the lot west of the church were purchased at a cost of five-hundred dollars. Under the pastorate of John K. Fisher in 1878, a new parsonage was erected on this location, costing twelve hundred dollars. The house, greatly improved from time to time, continues to be used as a parsonage to the present time.

The church building was repaired and improved several times. Being a two-story structure and having both a good-sized sanctuary and also a room for Sunday School work of the same size, it served the congregation well for a period of forty-seven years. These growing institutions—particularly the interest awakened by a live Men's Bible Class known as the "Crusaders" made more and better accommodations necessary. A new Sunday School building was erected to the rear of the church as the first unit of a proposed complete new church plant. This unit having been completed, it was occupied April 1, 1916, and dedicated by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent. D. E. Long was the pastor.

The original building was razed in 1919-20, and the second unit, the church sanctuary, was erected. Its cornerstone was laid by Dr. S. C. Enck, July 1, 1925. Bishop William M. Bell consecrated it to sacred worship, May 16, 1924. The service of dedication was in charge of the pastor, H. S. Keifer. Present also were Drs. Enck and Butterwick, who had part in the ceremonies. The building committee for the first unit was composed of: Dr. E. W. Newcomer, H. N. Nissley, B. F. Gerber, E. W. Bentzel, and H. G. Longenecker. The trustees in charge of construction at the time of erection of the main building were: C. G. Sherck, E. W. Bentzel, H. N. Nissley, H. G. Longenecker, Dr. E. W. Newcomer, A. N.



Mt. Joy Church

Stauffer, and L. L. Charles. The first unit cost sixteen-thousand dollars; the second, fifty-eight thousand dollars.

The building is constructed of rough brick with raked joint and trimmed in white stone. Two stately towers grace its front, and between them is an exceedingly beautiful large circular art window. The Sunday School rooms are well adapted for separate departmental and class work. The audience room lends inspiration to sacred worship. There is a spacious basement under the entire structure suited to a variety of uses.

A new pipe organ, the gift of one of the consecrated members of the congregation, was installed in 1933. The value of this organ, plus cost of improvements incident to the installation amounted

to four thousand, five-hundred dollars. Dr. Enck dedicated the organ, November 19th.

The church has a membership of 587, exceeding that of any other in a community of 2,800 population. Ezra H. Ranck, now in the eighth year of his pastorate at Mt. Joy, is constantly adding accessions both from the Borough and the surrounding countryside.

From its membership have come three ministers of our conference: John G. Clair, P. B. Gible, and C. C. Witmer, the latter a missionary to the Philippine Islands for many years.

Its pastors under the Mt. Joy Circuit were: H. E. Hackman and William B. Evers, 1867-68; David O'Farrell and George Stoll, 1868-69; J. C. Mumma, 1869-71; The names of the pastors of the Mt. Joy charge are: John Fohl, 1871-72; J. R. Meredith, 1872-75; J. Wesley Etter, 1875-77; John K. Fisher, 1877-79; M. P. Doyle, 1879-81; G. W. M. Rigor, 1881-83; J. Wesley Etter, 1883-85; J. T. Shaffer, 1885-87; D. D. Lowery, 1887-89; H. C. Phillips, 1889-93; J. A. Lyter, 1893-96; H. F. McNelly, 1896-99; J. M. Shelly, 1899-1901; J. M. Shelly, I. E. Runk, 1901-02; H. C. Phillips, I. E. Runk, 1902-03; I. E. Runk, 1903-06; E. O. Burtner, 1906-08; J. B. Rittgers, 1908-10; J. T. Spangler, 1910-13; H. S. Gabel, D. E. Long, 1913-14; D. E. Long, 1914-18; C. A. Snavelly, 1918-21; H. S. Keifer, 1921-29; C. E. Rettew, 1929-32; O. L. Mease, 1932-38; and E. H. Ranck, 1938-46.

Mt. Tabor Church, Earl Township

A class, consisting of a group of young and influential members, was organized at Mt. Tabor in 1889 and attached to the Intercourse charge. A lot was purchased from Thompson Brubaker for the nominal sum of one dollar, and a small chapel was erected in 1891. The deed for this transaction is dated December 7, 1889, and in it are named George W. Miller, the Rev. Z. C. Mower, and William Wallace, as trustees. The following year a better house of worship, a frame structure about thirty by forty-two feet in size, seating approximately 150 people, was built, the location being about two and one-half miles south of New Holland. At the time of its completion, September 25, 1892, S. G. Kauffman was the pastor, and H. B. Dohner, presiding elder.

Names appearing on the earliest record in possession of the church, apparently the charter members, consist of: William and Elizabeth Wallace, George W. Miller, Emma, Sallie, and Martha Miller, Erastus, Amanda, Hanah, E. W., and Elizabeth Numbers, R. C. Himes, Ella E. and Clarissa Brubaker, Riley and Elizabeth Dunlap, Sarah Kreider, Rebecca Good, Loretta Houck, J. M. and Elizabeth Parmer.

The congregation observed the forty-fifth anniversary of its founding in 1935. Of the first members, Mrs. Harry Dunlap, formerly Miss Martha Miller, has been a member through all the church's history. In 1938 the building was improved. The present church membership is eighty-eight, the Sunday School enrollment, sixty-

one. The trustees at the present time are: Harry Dunlap, Ivan Stone Sr., Harry K. Miller, Roy Miller, and Jason Wagner. Persons serving in other official capacities are: Raymond Essex, Mabel Stone, Mrs. Russell Miller, Mrs. Chester Overly, Charlotte Stone, Mrs. Amanda Miller, Virginia Dunlap, Mrs. Alva Myers, Hazel Stone, Mrs. William Miller, Mrs. Raymond Essex, and Mrs. Holland Miller. The church has always been a part of the Intercourse charge.

Mt. Zion Church, Salisbury Township

The Meadville class is the forerunner of the Mt. Zion Church. Its origin and location are given under the Limeville church. Adam Good, Joseph Whiteker, and Samuel Berkey were leaders in the movement to organize a class. A trustee board consisting of the Rev. Z. C. Mower, Daniel Lee, George W. Martin, Adam Good, John Berkey, Samuel Berkey, and John Reeser Jr., met at the home of Daniel Lee November 14, 1879 to consider the advisability of erecting a house of worship, and a committee of three trustees was appointed to buy a plot of ground. A site convenient to both the Meadville and the Cambridge communities was selected. According to a deed of transfer, dated October 7, 1880, Isaac Reel and wife, Mary Landis Reel, conveyed 105 perches (120 perches including an old family burial plot) to the trustees for the sum of twenty-five dollars. Between the 1879-meeting of the trustee board and the date of transfer, the personnel of the board had changed: Addison Benedict replaced Daniel Lee and there were added John Ammon and Calvin Gobel.

Three days after the date of transfer, the trustees staked off an area thirty by fifty-four feet for the building site. Ground was broken and preliminary work to the erection of a building was begun in the fall of the year 1880. However, cold weather set in early, and, the winter being long, not much could be accomplished before spring. In the meantime there was a great revival in the schoolhouse, and sixty persons were added to the class. In the spring work was resumed and the house was dedicated July 31, 1881, by Bishop John Dickson, assisted by the Rev. Isaiah Baltzell and pastor Mower. According to a record of accounts dated January 12, 1882, the cost of the church was \$1,045.10. In planning for the building, it was voted not to erect a steeple. Later, however, a belfry was built. The building was much improved in the year 1888.

In the winter of 1899-1900 under the ministry of N. A. Kiracofe, this community experienced another sweeping revival. Fifty-two members were added to the church roll. Through the nearly seventy years of its history, this church has served the community well. The present church membership numbers 182, the Sunday School enrollment, 220.

Trustees serving the church at the present are: P. C. Spotts, Thomas J. Martin, Amos Martin, J. W. Longabaugh, John P. Spotts, Peter Summers, and Wilson Martin. John K. Baxter is the lay delegate to annual conference.

Pastors serving this church are given under the following charges: Pequea Valley Mission, 1879-87; Mt. Pleasant Circuit, 1887-88; and Pequea Charge, 1888-1946.

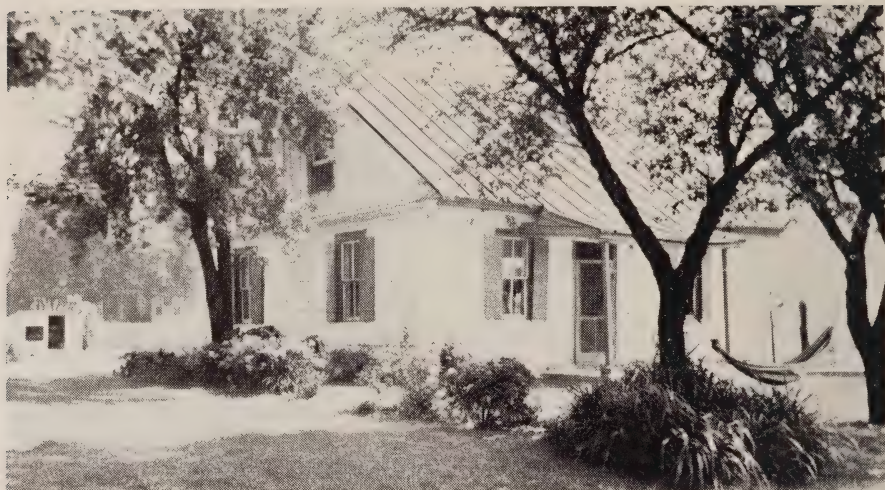
Neffsville, Long Memorial Church

The epoch-making event at Isaac Long's is memorialized in a beautiful temple of worship standing on the west side of Neffsville's main thoroughfare. The congregation which worships in it is in these later years giving comparable spiritual significance to the name adopted. Under the pastorate of Ira D. Lowery, 1938-46, the membership has increased from 189 to 328. Many years elapsed, however, before the United Brethren showed any considerable strength in this particular community, but all through the years there were those who did not despair of the cause their fathers had espoused.

Following the Great Meetings of the first decade of the 19th Century, meetings were held in the home of Joseph Long, nephew of Isaac, who was a local preacher among our people. John Long, brother of Isaac and father of Joseph, received that portion of their father's estate adjoining Isaac's share on the north. It in turn came into the possession of Joseph, then to Joseph's daughter Anna, who was married to Abraham Lane. Andrew L. Lane, son of this couple, was the next in line of the descendants of Joseph Long to own the farm. The spacious farm buildings are located about five-hundred feet north of the Isaac Long place. For many years services were held in a little frame house standing in what is now the lawn in front of the large dwelling. Bishop Christian Newcomer preached and visited at the home of Joseph Long and Isaac Long.

During that same early period the United Brethren held services in the Landis Schoolhouse at Roseville. This building, still standing and used as a dwelling, is located just east of the Lancaster-Ephrata Road, about two and one-half miles northeast of Lancaster City. A mile beyond is the famous Landis Valley Museum. The Rev. Ira D. Landis of the Mennonite Church, now owner of the Joseph Long farm, is in possession of the original document, dated 1814, which governed all matters pertaining to the use of the schoolhouse for school and religious purposes. The Mennonites and the United Brethren are the two religious bodies mentioned in the document. Paragraph seven reads as follows:

The United Brethren in Christ shall have a right to hold their Meetings and Worship in the said School House once in four weeks, to wit on the first Day of January, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifteen and henceforth every fourth Sunday forever. But if at any time they shall think proper to alter the Time of their Meeting and if the Trustees consent to it, they may henceforth hold their Meetings one Week earlier or one Week later.



The Landis Schoolhouse

This little school building may be said to have been right in the geographical center of United Brethren activity of those days. The home of the elder Abraham Hershey, later the Rev. Christian Hershey home, the Long homes, and later the Shissler Church are all within the radius of one mile. Bishop Newcomer preached in the schoolhouse at Landis' on October 8, 1818 and again on October 24, 1819.

After what appears a long time, the successors of the earliest brethren in this community purchased a small triangular tract of sixty-five square perches located along a country road about a mile and a half north of Neffsville, and erected a house of worship. It was once said to be "at a lonely place." But with large transport planes thundering overhead, maneuvering for landing on Lancaster's Municipal Airport Field, which is immediately across from the old church site, and a large manufacturing plant only a few rods to the west, the place is no longer "lonely."

The church known as the Shissler Church, was a frame structure thirty-five by forty feet in size. Jacob Shissler and wife sold the land to Levi Hollinger, John Kissinger and Jacob B. Hackman, trustees for the United Brethren. A church roll for the year 1871-72 shows the following were members: Jacob, Elizabeth E., John K., Catherine, and Elizabeth Peters, Levi and Fannie Hollinger, John and Ann Kissinger, John, Harriet, and Elizabeth Hock, Lydia Geib, Ann Stauffer, Sarah Young, William Croters, Samuel Zentmeier, Mary Lane, and Ann Ruth. Harrison and Adaline Shissler were added, with twenty-three other names, during the following nine years. The church was erected in 1865.

Twenty years later it seemed advisable to move to a new location. Consequently the Shissler Church building was torn down in the spring of 1886, and much of the lumber was used in the erection of a new house of worship, thirty-five by fifty feet, on a lot centrally located in Neffsville. Trustees for the new building were: Levi S. Reist, A. S. Ilyus Esq., H. F. Hostetter, Levi Hollinger, Henry Shissler, and Andrew L. Lane. On Sunday, October 24, 1886, the cornerstone was laid. On the 121st anniversary of the Isaac Long Meeting, Whitsunday, May 29, 1887, the church was dedicated by Bishop Jonathan Weaver. Also present were two presiding elders and seven other ministerial brethren. Presiding elder, H. B. Dohner, reported to conference session 1890 that the debt on the church had been cancelled by gifts from two grand-daughters of Isaac Long, Mrs. Annie Reist and Mrs. Matilda Erb.

God blessed the labors of the ministry and the congregation so that by 1934 the second church building of this congregation became inadequate. The cornerstone for a new building was laid August 26, 1934, and about five-hundred people gathered for the occasion. Dr. H. F. Rhoad preached at the service held in the old building, and the Rev. S. G. Kauffman performed the customary rites at the cornerstone laying. The building was dedicated March 31, 1935



Neffsville Church

by Bishop G. D. Batdorf, who preached at both morning and evening services. An inspiring fellowship service was held in the afternoon when twenty ministers of our own and other churches brought greetings.

John L. Smoker had a five-year pastorate, and it was during his administration that the new, very beautiful and impressive, Long Memorial Church, of native gray limestone, was erected; and the present parsonage, costing \$4,400, was purchased. The building committee was composed of Harry S. Krick, the Rev. Smoker, Harry E. Dunkle, Milton H. Landis, Franklin B. Long, Rufus L. Brookmeyer, John S. Graver, and Abram F. Binkley. The entire project cost \$27,338.43. The Sunday School building is directly in back of the worship auditorium and its main assembly room opens into it, which gives the building a total seating capacity for special services of between five and six hundred.

Special services were held April 22, 25, 26, and 29, 1945 to celebrate the completion of payment of the church debt. Participating in the program were Drs. S. C. Enck and D. E. Young, and the Revs. J. L. Smoker and J. E. Keene. The pastor, Ira D. Lowery, was in charge.

The large window in the apse behind the pulpit and choir has been fittingly dedicated in honor of the Rev. S. G. Kauffman, who was twice pastor of the church, covering a total of twenty-two years. His ministry greatly strengthened the work of this church, and his vision, faith and prayers laid the foundations for the erection of a new building. Samuel Getz Kauffman was born in Manor Township, November 20, 1854, and died at Neffsville, January 13, 1938. He served Intercourse, Manor, Denver, Schuylkill Haven, Centerville, and Neffsville charges. From 1900 to 1905, he was chaplain of certain Lancaster County public institutions. He became a member of Annual conference in 1891 and was ordained in 1894. He was a sincere preacher of the Word of God, a devoted friend and father and a wise counsellor.

The class which eventually became the Neffsville congregation first appears on conference records in the year 1861, and is given as "Long's of Lancaster." From that time until 1912, when Neffsville charge was created, there were twenty or more changes in circuit affiliations. Instead of listing these changes, there follows the pastoral appointments to circuits and charges of which this class or congregation was a part: Simon Noll, 1861-62; Lewis Fleisher, 1862-64; Lewis Peters, 1864-67; Rudolph Kauffman, 1867-68; George W. Hoffman, 1868-69; G. D. A. Garman, 1869-70; G. D. A. Garman, George Stoll, Henry Dissinger, 1870-71; James Shoop, 1871-73; George Shindler, 1873-75; G. D. A. Garman, 1875-77; Joseph Weirich, 1877-81; C. Walter, 1881-82; J. P. Smith, 1882-83; J. G. Fritz, J. H. Unger, 1883-84; M. A. Salt, 1884-86; George A. Loose, 1886-88; A. M. Hackman, 1888-89; John W. Boughter, 1889-91; S. G. Kauffman, 1891-93; C. W. Raver, 1893-94; W. E. Johnson, 1894-95; George Cavenaugh, H. H. Hoffer, 1895-96; C. G. F. Miller, 1896-99; C. G. F. Miller,

P. A. Bowman, 1899-1900; P. A. Bowman, 1900-01; S. S. Daugherty, 1901-09; J. E. Keene, 1909-12; Lloyd Martin, 1912-13; S. G. Kauffman, 1913-33; J. L. Smoker, 1933-38; and Ira D. Lowery, 1938-46.

New Holland Church

The first division of territory within Lancaster County occurred when the New Holland Circuit was created in 1846. The Ranck's Church had been erected in 1845. The class at New Holland erected its first church fifteen years later; therefore the circuit was probably named after a community rather than after a class. Though no class organization is on record, there was United Brethren preaching in New Holland long before the formation of a circuit by that name. The Rev. Christian Newcomer preached in the village before the United Brethren denomination was formally organized. On Sunday, May 15, 1803, he preached here a second time; this service is said to have been held in a schoolhouse.

Connection of the name of Christopher Grosh with this schoolhouse has a particular interest for those who hold him dear as one of our church fathers. The building was a two-storied log structure, forty by fifty feet in size, located near the northwest corner of the main east-west street and the Hinkletown Road. It was erected in 1786-87 by donation of money and labor on the part of citizens of the village and surrounding community. Though built on "Glebe Lands," it was not under direct control of church auspices. Those who founded it, however, were churchmen. Christopher Grosh contributed liberally toward its erection, and was one of its trustees. He had part in the dedicatory exercises which were of a distinctly religious nature. The secretary, writing an account of the ceremonies, states concerning Grosh's part:

Christopher Grosh, one of the present trustees, a person of both moral and religious character, and an impartial preacher of his society, at the request of the professor and trustees concluded the whole by a very rational, and to all who heard him, satisfactory discourse, well adapted to the occasion, and confirmed what had been delivered to the hearers by the professor, as coinciding with him fully, and so finished with prayer.¹⁰

The Rev. Samuel Seiders was appointed to the New Holland Circuit in the spring of 1858. He held services in a frame building known as the Western Schoolhouse, a short distance west of town. He was appointed again in 1859 but died shortly afterward, on March 29, 1859. Jacob Brewer, who completed the year, held a very successful revival in the same log schoolhouse which Christopher Grosh had assisted in building nearly seventy years before. The revival, and additions to the class, led to the erection of a brick church, thirty by forty-five feet, which was dedicated by Jacob C. Smith, pastor at York First Church, assisted by pastor Brewer and other ministers.

During the winter of 1872-73, under the pastorate of M. J. Mumma, the church was redecorated, and other improvements were made, costing \$521.63. Further improvements were made in 1883 and 1890, and the church was much enlarged in 1900. It was reopened for divine worship August 12, 1900, and dedicated October 21, by Bishop E. B. Kephart. Assisting at this service were the Revs. J. S. Pitman, of Los Angeles, California, and Z. A. Weidler, pastor at Intercourse. J. G. Smoker was pastor. The building committee for this project consisted of the pastor, Levi Hoover and R. Howard Wright.

A house for use as a parsonage, located on the site of the present manse, 228 W. Main Street, was bought in 1863, for \$1,180. It was enlarged from time to time, but still remaining unsatisfactory as a pastor's dwelling, it was razed, and a new parsonage was erected in 1890-91.

The first plot of ground purchased in 1860 consisted of fifty-five perches. In 1879 one acre and twenty-four perches to the rear of the first purchase was bought for burial purposes, and in 1908 land adjoining the original on the west was purchased—the three tracts costing a total of \$1,375. In 1908 the trustees were J. Frank Brubaker, I. M. Groff, R. Howard Wright, D. W. Ranck, and Dr. B. F. Sensenich. Aaron H. Bear was Sunday School superintendent for many years. The parsonage trustees on the charge, in 1908, were: Isaac Shirk, B. G. Good, J. M. Hoover, J. B. Thomas, and James Usner. The lot, with a two and one-half story dwelling adjoining church property on the east, was bought in May, 1945, for five thousand dollars.

Plans to enlarge the church building were considered in 1920. These drafts failing to meet the needs of the congregation, it was decided to erect a new building. The cornerstone for the same was laid by Dr. Enck, June 25, 1922. The new structure, fifty by one-hundred and eight feet, of sandstone and brick, costing sixty three thousand dollars, was dedicated June 24, 1923, by Bishop William M. Bell. C. R. Longenecker was pastor when this spacious and fine edifice was erected. The basement was completed in 1928 at a cost of \$8,693.36. The entire cost of the completed plant was met by the year 1928. A great service of victory and rejoicing was held, June 20, 1928. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached on this occasion of victory, anniversary, and mortgage burning. Frank C. Aungst, pastor during this period of achievement, is serving in the twentieth year of pastorate at New Holland and Ranck's. He has given consecrated leadership to the material and spiritual progress of his parish.

Among the laymen who have been great assets to the congregation was Levi Hoover (1823-1913). He was one of its organizers and first trustees. When the Sunday School was organized in 1861 he became its superintendent, a position which he held for a period of twenty years. He was also trustee of the Ephrata church at the time of its founding, and assisted in the founding of the church at



New Holland Church

Monterey. In 1880 he moved to Kansas. Finding two other United Brethren families, they together started a Sunday School, then later built a church at Russell, Kansas, which today is a flourishing congregation. Mr. Hoover returned in 1900 and again became active in the interest of the New Hollnd Church.

The ministerial appointments to the New Holland Circuit and later the New Holland charge are as follows: David O'Farrel, 1846-48; George Gilbert, 1848-50; Jacob Brewer, 1850-52; Simon Zimmerman, 1852-54; Israel Carpenter, 1854-55; Israel Carpenter and James G. Fritz, 1855-56; P. J. Riland, 1856-58; Samuel Seiders, 1858-59; Samuel Seiders, Jacob Brewer, 1859-60; Jacob Brewer, 1860-61; G. W. Scott, George Gilbert, 1861-62; W. S. H. Keys, 1862-66; Isaiah Baltzell, William B. Evers, 1866-67; Amos F. Yeager, 1867-69; David O'Farrel, 1869-71; M. J. Mumma, 1871-72; M. J. Mumma and A. V. H. Gosweiler, 1872-73; M. J. Mumma and John H. Groff, 1873-75; John F. Mower, 1875-78; J. C. Mumma, 1878-80; J. B. Funk, 1880-83; E. L. Hughes, 1883-86; M. J. Mumma, 1886-87; Thomas Garland, 1887-89; J. R. Meredith, 1889-1890; Z. A. Weidler, 1890-92; Lewis Peters, S. C. Enck, 1892-93; M. A. Salt, 1893-96; J. G. Smoker, 1896-1901; C. A. Mutch, 1901-06; I. H. Albright, 1906-12; J. R. MacDonald, 1912-16; W. W. Fridinger, O. G. Romig, 1916-17; C. E. Rettew, 1917-20; C. R. Longenecker, 1920-24; LeRoy R. Walters, 1924-26; and Frank C. Aungst, 1926-46.

Newtown Church, Rapho Township

The Newtown class located in a village by that name was an appointment on the old Lancaster Circuit, when the first church was erected in 1860. The following names appear on the membership roll of 1861-62: Aaron and Mary Deyer, Jacob, Elizabeth and Marie Geltmacher, Michael B., Anna and Elizabeth Hogendoubler, Samuel, Elizabeth, John M., and Anna Lockard, Reuben Lutz, Jacob and Martha Mumma, John F. and Catharine Meads, Elizabeth Meyers, Henry, John, and Mary Brown, Mary Illius, John Meldrum, Edward, Susanna and David Givens, John Wise, and John Shofelter.

The first church building stood on a side street and served the congregation for a period of fifty-four years. During the ministry of O. R. Brooks, a new site on the southeast corner of the village crossroad, on which was an old brick schoolhouse, was purchased. This old building was razed and a new brick structure erected in the summer of 1914. During its construction a storm blew down one of the partly built walls. The project was completed and the building dedicated on October 18. The Brethren in Christ denomination has for a number of years held services in both the old and the new church and has given generous financial aid in the rebuilding.

Rufus Hipple, who was a well-known teacher in the township, having served fifty-one years as such, was for many years class leader and Sunday School superintendent. Among its trustees were: Samuel E. Myers, George Metzger, Abraham Bradley, Richard Frank, Emanuel Myers, Christian Garber, Curtin Geltmacher, and Jacob Geltmacher. Emanuel Myers also served as class leader and Sunday School superintendent. Raymond H. Arndt was recommended for quarterly conference license by vote of this class.

In its early history the church was a part of the Florin and Mt. Joy Circuits, but the exact years of this relationship are uncertain.

The church has been affiliated with the following Circuits: Lancaster, 1861-67; Mt. Joy, 1867-71; Florin, 1871-91; Marietta, 1891-94; Chestnut Grove, 1894-96; Mt. Joy, 1896-1901; Marietta, 1901-03; Centerville, 1903-04; Silver Spring, 1904-05; Centerville, 1905-06; Cordelia, 1906-07; Centerville, 1907-18; Florin, 1918-19; Columbia, 1919-25; Silver Spring, 1925-30; Brunnerville, 1930-46.

Oregon Church, Manheim Township

The Oregon congregation worships in a frame building erected as a Union Church in 1874. The citizens of the community cooperated in providing funds for its erection, and among the contributions was one of five-hundred dollars from Mrs. Anna Bushong, Reading, Pa., who was a descendant of the Martin Myers family that settled on the land on which the church was built. Others than United Brethren have held services in this church through the years but our denomination is the only one which has used the building consistently.

There was a class at Millport in Warwick Township which met in a Union church erected in 1846, and this was the forerunner of the Oregon class. It was attached to Sinking Spring, Lancaster, and Mountville Circuits in the order named, during the decade, 1860-70. The Reist and Hostetter families were members of it. Later these and other families formed the Oregon class. Levi S. Reist and wife, Simon Hostetter and wife, were members first at Millport, later at Oregon. Anna Mary Hostetter, for many years a member at Oregon, is a great-granddaughter of both these families. Her grandmother Reist was a great-granddaughter of Isaac Long.

Present trustees at Oregon are: Ivan R. Buch, Paul Ness, Raymond Withers, Carson Bear, and Peter Sweigert. Those who served as superintendents of the Sunday School were: George Myers, Levi S. Reist, and Jacob Glick. At present Ivan R. Ruth is head of the School. Officers of the Women's Missionary Society are: Mrs. Embrose Roland, president; Mrs. Samuel Myers, vice president; Miss Pauline Ness, treasurer; and Miss June Wren, secretary. The church membership is sixty; Sunday School enrollment, ninety-five.

For a time following the organization of the class it was on the Manheim charge. Since 1882 it has been attached to the following circuits: Ephrata, 1882-86; Lititz, 1886-88; Lancaster, 1888-90; Lititz, 1890-91; Intercourse, 1892-93; Lancaster, 1893-96; Lititz, 1896-1912; and Neffsville Charge, 1912-46.

Paradise, St. John's Church

The United Brethren had a church at Soudersburg thirty years before the St. John's Church was erected at Paradise. Jacob, David, and Benjamin Souders owned the land where the village named for them is located. Benjamin was a local preacher for the Methodists, who erected a church (still standing though used for other purposes) in the eastern limits of the village in the year 1802. Newcomer writes that "he attended meeting in Soudersburg," in October, 1803. This was probably at the Methodist meetinghouse. Jacob Stehman, one of the organizers of a United Brethren class at Soudersburg received a transfer of membership from the Methodists in 1839. Other members of this class were: Marie Stehman, Michael and Polly Good, Andrew Stiffel, Jacob and Mary Groff, Mary McAllister, and William Given. "Father Stehman" (1816-1892), as he was fondly called in later years, received annual conference license in 1849, and was ordained in the conference in 1852. He always held a local relation. However, in his early years he was quite actively engaged in preaching and teaching.

The class erected a frame building, about thirty by thirty-five feet in size, in Soudersburg, in 1847. It was located on the south side of the main highway, near the east bank of a small run, and was known as the "Little White Church." On the evening of Thanksgiving Day, 1871, M. J. Mumma, while serving the New Holland Circuit, began a revival meeting which continued until the last

Saturday of the following March. Seventy-five conversions were reported and there were numerous additions to the membership. As a further result of the revival a Sunday School was organized in the spring of 1872, with Jacob Stehman as the first superintendent.

A larger house of worship now became necessary. The members resided chiefly in Soudersburg, Paradise, and Gordonville, and each of these communities wanted the new church to be erected in its midst. It was finally decided to locate centrally between them. An elevated site, somewhat west of Paradise, was selected. In 1876 a tract of two acres was purchased from Hiram W. Esbenshade for the sum of five-hundred dollars. The cornerstone was laid in the spring of 1877 under the pastorate of J. D. Killian, and by his leadership the building was completed the following spring, at a cost of six thousand dollars. It was constructed of brick, forty-four by sixty-four feet in size, with an addition of four feet for pulpit recess. Two years after the erection of the building the church was incorporated, and the following trustees were elected: Elam Hershey, Jacob Stehman, Daniel Longenecker, Jacob Groff, and Abraham Ressler.

A remaining debt on this project with all its attending circumstances of uncertainty and embarrassment, delayed dedication for a period of fifteen years. H. F. McNelly, appointed to Mt. Pleasant Circuit in October 1891, was, on Christmas Day of the same year, also appointed to preach at St. John's. So successful were his efforts that on the first anniversary of the day on which he began his ministry with this church, the building was at long last dedicated by Bishop Nicholas Castle with all indebtedness provided for. Immediately after dedication a revival began which resulted in ninety-one conversions and seventy-eight accessions. From that time forward the permanency of the work was a certainty.

During the pastorate of Dr. A. K. Wier, 1899-1901, the last dollar of indebtedness was paid. E. J. Renshaw was pastor at the time when a brick parsonage was erected in 1908 on a lot adjacent to the original property, cost of the parsonage and lot being \$3,516.

From 1900 to 1920 the church had a net increase in membership of 143. Beginning with 1922, funds were collected to provide for a new building in order to properly house the rapidly growing Sunday School. By Labor Day, 1932, architectural plans had been approved, and on that day ground was broken. The cornerstone was laid October 23, 1932. In less than six months the building was ready for dedication, and on Easter Sunday, 1933, appropriate consecration services were held. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, who was present for the cornerstone laying, also preached both morning and evening on the day of dedication, and performed the customary rites. The structure cost approximately twenty-five thousand dollars. The entire amount was paid by September 1942, and the mortgage was burned at a special service November 28, 1943.



Paradise Church

The Rev. Walter E. Deibler served the church while funds were being raised, and the Rev. S. A. Rauch was pastor at the time of dedication. Under the administration of C. A. Snavely the final payment was made. John Hively, J. Ira Denlinger, E. R. Helm, C. L. Herr, Park F. Esbenshade, B. R. Brackbill and Harry N. Troop composed the building committee.

Miss Estelle M. High, serving her eighth three-year term in Sierra Leone, West Africa, entered missionary work from St. John's. Miss Lucille B. Esbenshade, a member of the congregation, is serving in her first term at San Fernando, Philippine Islands. John L. Smoker and Thomas S. May, having received license to preach by vote of this congregation, are active elders in this conference.

Robert H. Sholter is in the second year of his pastorate at St. John's. In these two years ninety-seven members have been received, bringing the total, at the close of the conference year 1946, to 545 in number. Under his direction preparations are being made to observe the centennial Anniversary of the founding of the first class.

Pastors serving the congregation from 1846 to 1875 were those of the New Holland Circuit. From 1875 to 1881 the church formed a part of the Intercourse Circuit. St. John's was made a station in 1881, and the following were its ministers: S. J. Nunn, 1881-82; S. J. Nunn, J. G. Steiner, 1882-83; J. G. Steiner, J. N. Munden, 1883-84;

and Lewis Peters, 1884-85. From 1885 to 1893 the church was an appointment on the following Circuits: Intercourse, 1885-91; and Mt. Pleasant, 1891-93.

In the year 1893 St. John's Church was constituted a charge, and the following pastors served: H. F. McNelly, 1893-96; L. R. Kramer, 1896-97; E. O. Burtner, 1897-98; H. T. Denlinger, G. W. M. Rigor, 1898-99; A. K. Wier, 1899-1902; E. F. Sherman, 1902-03; H. C. Phillips, 1903-04; E. J. Renshaw, 1904-10; J. Warren Kauffman, 1910-12; M. H. Jones, 1912-14; Allen G. Nye, 1914-20; W. E. Deibler, 1920-26; S. A. Rauch, 1926-34; C. A. Snavelly, 1934-44; and R. H. Sholter, 1944-46.

Ranck's Church, East Earl Township

This church is located in East Earl Township about one and one-half miles southeast of New Holland. It stands near the foothills of the Welsh Mountain beyond which, eastward, there never has been much United Brethren activity. The church bears the name of a family which has had and still has a large place in its history.

The first preaching by the United Brethren in this community, of which there is record, was in the year 1802 when Newcomer made his first visit to the house of Christopher Grosh. We have already noted Grosh's contribution to our fellowship. His house later came into possession of a son-in-law, Daniel Weidman. The Weidman home was also used by the itinerant preachers, until a church house was erected. A few miles west of the Grosh farm lived Joseph Huber (1764-1826) at whose house also Newcomer frequently preached. These families and others, without a break, supported the United Brethren cause in the community.

About the year 1837 the Revs. John and Casper Light held a meeting at the Weidman house at which time there were many converts. Similar evangelistic efforts were greatly blessed under the ministry of Daniel Funkhouser who was appointed to Lancaster Circuit in 1838. Tradition has it that he organized the first class. Land was bought from Joseph Ranck for the sum of fifty dollars for the erection of a house of worship, and for the burial of the dead. Trustees named in the deed, dated July 1, 1844, are Daniel Weidman, Michael Ranck, and John Correll. The work of construction was begun in the fall of that year and completed early in the following year, when the building, thirty-two by thirty-six feet in size, was dedicated by the Rev. Jacob C. Smith. Originally the entrance to the building was at its southern end, thus the rear of it was to the public road passing on its north. During the ministry of M. J. Mumma, an addition of ten feet length was added to the south end, and the entrances were placed on the north facing the street. A tower and bell were also provided.

The keen interest manifested by the laity in revivals is reflected in an article published in the Religious Telescope under date of



Ranck's Church

*The Building of 1872
Remodeled, and Wing
Added, Dedicated
July 16, 1950*

January 27, 1858. It is from the pen of Samuel E. Ranck and reads as follows:

A protracted Meeting began at Ranck's Church on the evening of December 27, 1857 which is still in progress. The good Lord was with us in power to kill and to make alive. Eleven found peace (some of which are heads of families), five united with the Church, and numbers yet are crying for mercy.

In 1876 the cemetery was enlarged by the purchase of an acre of ground, costing three hundred dollars, and there was another addition of one acre and fifty-six perches in 1910. Here many of the sainted dead sleep the sleep of the just. The remains of brother Grosh and those of several members of his family were first interred in a corner of a field on his farm. Their graves were almost forgotten and much neglected. In the spring of 1907 their remains were exhumed by interested relatives and friends and interred in the cemetery by the church. By the year 1944 a Trust Fund to the amount of \$3,646.67 had been provided for the maintenance of this beautifully kept burial ground.

The congregation, rich in spiritual heritage, is zealously striving to foster a spirit of appreciation worthy of its consecrated fathers. The church was incorporated April 24, 1903. Ezra G. Ranck, Levi Overly, Benjamin B. Brubaker, D. G. Weidman, and A. C. Rutter were its trustees at the time. Dr. I. H. Albright, who was pastor of the New Holland-Ranck's charge, 1906-12, always seeking to make the most of the deeds of our founding fathers, planned special anniversary services which were held May 17-24, 1908. The services centered about the idea of "Home-Coming Week"—the title to an historical booklet published at the time. This booklet shows the trustees to be those named at the time of the incorporation. Other officials were as follows: class leader, D. G. Weidman; church

treasurer, John M. Hoover; Sunday School superintendent, George S. Ranck; Women's Missionary Association: president, Jemima Martin; secretary, Roxanna Weidman; treasurer, Lucetta Hoover; solicitor, Laura Rutter. A directory of members appears in the same booklet. On the roll of members there are thirteen by the name of Overly, and thirteen by the name of Ranck.

During the pastorate of C. R. Longenecker extensive improvements were made consisting of a new tower, a pipeless furnace, Delco Light Plant, art-glass windows, hardwood floors, oak pulpit and pews, and carpet, at a cost of \$7,828. In 1938 Jacob Haines gave to the congregation the sum of \$20,895.33 for a Trust Fund. Centennial Anniversary services were held September 10, 1944 under direction of the pastor, Dr. F. C. Aungst, with Bishop G. D. Batdorf preaching the sermon. A two and one-half story dwelling was purchased in 1946 for the price of four thousand and three-hundred dollars, which may be used as a parsonage.

Prior to 1846 ministers serving the Lancaster Circuit preached at the Ranck's appointment. Since that year its ministers are those listed under New Holland Church.



Ranck's Church 1872



Refton Church

Refton, Boehm's Memorial Church

The church bearing the name of the sainted Bishop Martin Boehm is located in the village of Refton, northwestern Strasburg Township. There were several classes in the valley of the Beaver Creek about ten years before the Refton class was established. Mention is made in boundary committee reports of "Beaver Valley Class" in 1867 and 1868. The most southerly classes in the county con-

stituted the Quarryville Circuit in 1881. All these classes have passed out of existence except the one at Refton, which has had a permanent existence since its organization about the year 1880. The class met in a house of worship used by several denominations until the year 1887 when its own building was erected. It was ready for dedication about February 1888, but due to a severe winter making travel difficult, the building was not dedicated until spring. Bishop Ezekiel B. Kephart consecrated it to sacred worship.

Among the first officials of the organization were: Washington Winters, S. G. Kauffman, Jacob Huber, Henry Smith, Ross Boocher, Diller Plank, H. Free Fellenbaum, George T. Rose, Elam Book, Emil Conrad, Samuel Orr, and Henry Andrews. The building which these fathers of the church erected at Refton is a substantial brick structure situated on the south side of the Quarryville-Lancaster Road. The interior was renovated in 1903 at a cost of one-thousand dollars. A basement was constructed for Sunday School use in 1934. The same was dedicated November 18, 1934, and the expense incurred, amounting to seven-hundred dollars, was paid for by that date.

The congregation observed its fiftieth anniversary, May 19, 1937 with appropriate services. Dr. C. A. Lynch preached at the morning hour of worship, Dr. S. C. Enck in the evening. Dr. H. U. Roop was pastor. Church officers at the time were: trustees, H. F. Fellenbaum, Henry K. Doner, Miss Emma Kunkle, William B. Graeff, and Chester Eshleman; Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. J. C. Hambleton, Mrs. Clem H. Groff, Mrs. Willis Graeff, and Mrs. Mabel Book; Ladies' Aid Society, Mrs. Charles Miller, Miss Emma Kunkle, and Mrs. Clara Kunkle. Trustees at the present time are: J. William Porter, Edward Mowrer, J. R. Strickler, Miss Emma Kunkle, and Chester Eshleman.

Refton Church was attached to Lancaster Circuit in 1881, of which it remained a part until 1890. Following 1890, it has been attached to the following circuits: Mt. Pleasant, 1890-93; Lancaster, 1893-96; and Manor, 1896-1901. Refton became a charge in 1901, pastors appointed were: S. G. Kauffman, 1901-05; I. W. Funk, 1905-06; J. C. Pease, 1906-07; Thomas Garland, 1907-10; C. H. Holzinger, 1910-12; C. G. White, 1912-13; and B. M. Breneman, 1913-20; O. G. Romig, 1920-22; M. B. Groff, 1922-26; M. H. Miller, 1926-31; H. U. Roop, 1931-37; James Bingham, 1937-42; and Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1942-46.

Ruhl's (Zion's) Church, Rapho Township

This church, named after the Ruhl family whose members are numerous on its church roll, is located about four miles northwest of Manheim in the northern region of Rapho Township. John Ruhl and his elder brother Philip, Michael Sharp, and David Stoner, with their families, were among the earliest members of the class. Philip Ruhl was a very zealous local preacher. John Ruhl (1821-1887) was converted at the age of seventeen, when Daniel Funkhouser and Enoch Hoffman traveled the Lancaster Circuit. He

later married Miss Esther Keller who came from the vicinity of Fishburn's church in Dauphin County. This couple lived near the mill at Elstonville, and for about twenty-seven years their house and barn were used as places of meeting. The Rev. John Ruhl received quarterly conference license at the hands of presiding elder John Adam Sand at a quarterly held at Mountville in the year 1851. In 1868 he was admitted to annual conference. He frequently attended its sessions but was never appointed to a charge. He was, however, of great usefulness to the itinerant preachers of the local and neighboring charges. He was a good and faithful servant of God who loved his Lord and Church supremely.

The name of John Lehn appears as class leader on a church membership roll of the year 1861. Other names on this roll are, John Ruhl and wife Esther, Agnes and Elizabeth Ruhl, Mrs. John Lehn and Harriet Lehn, Elizabeth Brubaker, Fannie Dourte, Christian Haldeman, Ellen Kaley, Betty Runkle, and Rebecca Hallman. By successful revival efforts the class reached a membership of forty-five by the year 1867. In that year a brick edifice was erected on ground donated by the Rev. John Ruhl. The original building, as shown on a photograph taken by Dr. S. C. Enck in 1893, had two doors at the front of the building with a window between, at the center. Certain repairs were made in the year 1890, also in 1894. A very violent storm passing over the area in September of the year 1896 tore off the roof and pushed down the front and rear walls. Soon thereafter the church was rebuilt at a cost of seven-hundred dollars. An annex about ten feet in depth was added to the rear of the structure in 1919, costing six-hundred dollars, for the use of the children's division of the Sunday School. Further improvements were made in 1923 costing two thousand and one-hundred dollars.

Throughout the years the congregation has experienced precious seasons of revival. The presiding elder, H. B. Dohner, in his report of 1890 writes: There is an extensive protracted meeting in progress and it was marvelous in our eyes; and increased the membership largely." In 1893-95 the following were members of the quarterly: trustees, Ezra Ruhl, John L. Ruhl, Addison Stoner, John H. Ruhl, H. M. Lehn, Aaron Kephart, and Emanuel Ruhl; class leader, Ezra Ruhl; stewards, Eli B. Ruhl, and H. M. Lehn; Sunday School superintendent, Harry P. Wisegarber. Mr. Wisegarber served in this capacity at different periods for a total of twenty-three years. Other superintendents before his time and since his retirement were: Phares Becker, Joseph B. Wisegarber, Benjamin Ruhl, Conrad Waltz, John H. Ruhl, Frank Druckenbrod (now a minister of the conference), William Werner, Cyrus Boyer, Elmer Brubaker, and Abram Faus. Among those who have been class leaders are: Jacob Ellinger, Joseph Snyder, Daniel Walborn, John G. Saylor, Aaron Snyder, Benjamin Ruhl, Frank Druckenbrod, Alvin Shearer, and Samuel Hollinger. The church trustees at this present are: Samuel Hollinger, Elmer Brubaker, Ellis Heisey, David Stoner, Edgar Herr, and Alvin Shearer.

THE CHURCHES OF LANCASTER COUNTY

From the beginning of the class organization until 1867, Ruhl's Church was an appointment on the Lancaster Circuit. Since 1867 it has been affiliated with the following circuits: Mt. Joy, 1867-71; Manheim, 1871-83; Hopeland, 1883-86; Chestnut Grove, 1893-95. From 1886 to 1893 it constituted a charge, and the ministers appointed were: Joseph Young Jr., 1886-89; S. C. Enck, 1889-91; S. R. Gipple, 1891-92; and J. W. Boughter, 1892-93. Since 1895 it has been attached to Manheim Church.



Ruhl's Church
(*The Annex Dedicated 1950*)



Silver Spring Church

Schoeneck, Wiest Memorial Church, West Cocalico Township

The Wiest Memorial Church was made possible through the generosity of Samuel S. Wiest, M.D., and his wife Mary Ann. The doctor died April 27, 1902, before the church could be built, but fortunately there was a clause in his will instructing his wife to have the church erected. It was his request that the building be patterned after the Reformed Church at Lincoln, Pennsylvania, its cost not to exceed ten thousand dollars. Mrs. Wiest engaged the service of George Grove of Harrisburg, as architect and builder. The cornerstone was laid May 17, 1905. Immediately after the ceremony a meeting of the trustees, H. S. Gabel, M. J. Mumma, S. L. Rhoads, Mary A. Wiest, and Charles Yeager, was held at the Wiest home.

The building, a beautiful brownstone structure with memorial windows, was completed in about a year's time, and was dedicated May 16, 1904. The interior consists of the auditorium, a small Sunday School room, and a minister's office. The original heating and lighting facilities were replaced by modern ones in 1924. A metal ceiling was installed and the interior and exterior of the building were painted at a cost of eight-hundred and fifty dollars during the second pastorate of B. M. Breneman.

The congregation has always been small, probably reaching its largest membership—numbering twenty-seven in 1946—under the ministry of the present pastor, Charles W. Wolfe.

Its pastors have been those of the following charges: Denver, 1902-07; Hopeland, 1907-12; and Denver, 1912-46.

Silver Spring, Salem Church

In 1876, J. C. Mumma, while pastor at Mountville, organized a class at Silver Spring comprised of the following members: John and Anna Weaver, Warren and Catherine Bruckhart, Catherine Smith, Henry and Sarah Mellinger, Christian and Sadie Kauffman, Anna Manuel, Elias and Ann Stauffer, and Hogentogler. There was no house of worship available. The class was continued for about a year, and then its members were transferred to Ironville Church.

A second attempt to organize proved more successful, when J. Francis Smith, pastor at Ironville, opened an appointment at Silver Spring in 1887. The present church lot was purchased in 1888 and the building thereon erected was dedicated in the fall of that year. Jacob R. Weaver, Henry R. Weaver, David R. Kauffman, Jacob Kendig, Daniel McCune, John M. Weller, Henry R. Mellinger were trustees. The erection of the house of worship was made possible by contributions from people of the community regardless of denominational affiliation. It was used by various denominations, but has always been recognized as the property of the United Brethren, and by them kept in repair.

A class, known as the "Salem Class," was organized by S. R. Gipple in February 1889. It consisted of the following: Henry and Sarah Mellinger, Reuben, Amanda and Henry Hershey, Samuel Kinsey, Lizzie Bruckhart, Lizzie Spangler, Annie Hogendobler, Effie Kendig, Ida Baker, and Anna Gallagher. During the next two years nineteen members were added.

Extensive improvements were made in 1927: the building was painted, a new heating system installed, and a new basement constructed, involving a cost of \$1,541. Reopening services were held August 28th.

The church membership roll in 1946 numbered 108; the Sunday School enrollment was 119, and the average attendance, 69. Recent improvements include a new vestibule, new lighting system, venetian blinds, papered walls, repainted pews and floors.

The trustees are: Harrison Nolt, Willis Reapsome, John Stively, Theodore Miller, and Clayton Aument. Willis Reapsome is the Sunday School superintendent, Mrs. Harrison Nolt heads the Women's Missionary Society.

The congregation has formed a part of the following circuits: Ironville, 1887-88; Florin, 1888-91; Marietta, 1891-94; Chestnut Grove, 1894-96; Mt. Joy, 1896-1901; Centerville, 1901-04; Centerville, 1905-06; Cordelia, 1906-07; Centerville, 1907-18; Florin, 1918-19; Columbia, 1919-25; and Silver Spring, 1925-46. For the year 1904-05 it constituted a charge. J. E. Francis followed by Martin Groff were the

ministers for the year. Ministers of the Silver Spring Circuit have been as follows: Oscar Buch, 1925-26; J. L. Smoker, 1926-33; W. C. Blatt, 1933-40; R. G. Bechtel, Samuel Stoner, 1940-41; Daniel L. Shearer, 1941-44; and R. V. Mays, 1944-46.

West Willow Church

A class was organized at Willow Street in 1860 but it did not erect a house of worship. John G. Smoker was one of its first class leaders and Dr. Benjamin M. Frick was a steward. A quarterly conference held on the charge January 2, 1867, passed a motion to add the members of this class to the Beaver Valley class. Whether this action was carried out remains an uncertainty. A class bearing the same name is listed in 1876 as being on Conestoga Circuit. It was a part of Mt. Pleasant Circuit, 1877-78; Lancaster, 1878-80; Conestoga, 1880-81; Quarryville, 1881-84; Mt. Pleasant, 1884-85. It met occasionally in a public hall, then, in 1883, meetings were held in a store-room, formerly a mercantile establishment conducted by Jacob Charles. This property was purchased in 1884 and the room converted into a place of worship. Trustees for the property were: Harry Witmer of Manor Township, John G. Smoker of Providence Township, and Benjamin Snavelly of Pequea Township.

The permanent organization for the present West Willow Church was effected in the year 1907. Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, conducted a quarterly conference on May 25 of that year, the following being present: the Rev. J. B. Funk, M. B. Groff, Annie Groff, I. H. Brooks, B. S. Shenk and D. W. Dunlap. Trustees elected at this meeting were authorized at the next quarterly meeting, June 8, to erect a church building. They reported, July 6, having purchased an acre of ground from John H. Huber, and soon thereafter work on the building project was begun. John H. Huber and Jacob Tshudy, with the trustees, acted as a building committee. The edifice cost four-thousand dollars, and upon its completion in 1908, was dedicated by Dr. Lowery. J. B. Funk, who had been appointed to the new work, reported a membership of thirty-eight at the close of the conference year.

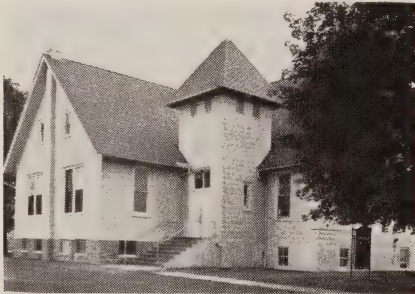
The house of worship has been improved and enlarged, new oak pews were placed and other needed improvements were made in 1922 at a cost of \$1,435. During the conference year 1925-26 an annex was added providing five additional class rooms and other conveniences, a new vapor-system heating plant, and a new carpet, at a total cost of \$5,609.32. Rededication services were conducted by Dr. Enck May 29, 1926. In 1932 the interior of the building was renovated and repainted, and a beautiful mural painting placed in the pulpit alcove. An additional room was constructed in the basement in 1940. The Sunday School increased during the year by forty-seven and the church membership by twenty-nine. Organized work with young people took on a new interest; a Senior and Junior Christian Endeavor Society were organized, and the first

group of young people were sent to the Mt. Gretna Summer Assembly.

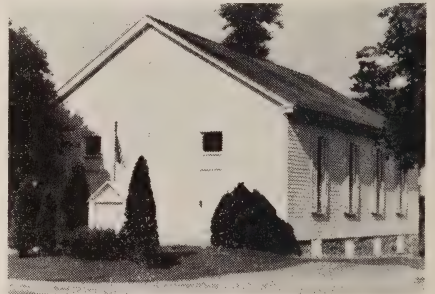
West Willow Church, at an official meeting held February 3, 1912, requested Refton Church to join in the erection of a parsonage. The request was complied with. A commodious and modern manse was erected east of the church at West Willow. Both parsonage and church are constructed of cement block. A coat of white paint has recently been given both. The spacious lawns, fine shrubbery, and asphalt-paved parking area, enhance the beauty of this desirable village parish property.

The young people of the congregation have maintained their interest in the work of the parish. They have recently bought a Dick Mimeographing machine for church use, and are now sponsoring a movement to purchase an organ. A Wurlitzer Orgatron has been ordered and arrangements have been made for its installation as soon as delivery can be made. The committee in charge is composed of: Robert Shenk, Mrs. Joseph Copeland, and Mrs. Glen Wineske. The Rev. Cornwell Beamesderfer is giving excellent leadership as pastor. He has the unique distinction of having two sons in the ministry, and a third who is looking forward to the same profession.

The trustees are: A. C. Nissley, D. W. Dunlap, John H. Huber, William A. Ross, and William Dull. D. W. Dunlap has served as trustee since the class was organized. The parsonage trustees are: William Dull, A. C. Nissley, Clyde Ulmer, J. William Porter, Walter



West Willow Church



Oregon Church

Heisler, and William A. Ross. These represent both congregations, West Willow and Refton. These two churches have constituted one charge since the West Willow class was organized. The pastors are listed under Refton Church.

3. Abandoned Churches and Classes

Bainbridge, along the Susquehanna River south of Falmouth, was an appointment on the Marietta Circuit, 1868.

Beaver Valley Class, Strasburg Township, was listed under Lancaster Circuit, 1867, and under Mountville Circuit, 1868.

Eden, northeast of Lancaster City, was an appointment during 1888-1891.

Elizabeth Furnace, Elizabeth Township, was an appointment on Pannabecker's (Hopeland) Circuit in 1855, and continued under Myerstown and Sinking Spring Circuits until 1860.

Harristown, Paradise Township, an appointment affiliated with Intercourse and Pequea Valley Circuits, 1879-1881.

Hawksville, a new class organized on Mt. Pleasant Circuit in 1886.

Hinkletown. A brick church was erected in this village in 1848, known as "Union Bethel." The United Brethren began holding services about 1852. From that time forward until 1896 it was supplied by ministers serving the following circuits: Lancaster, New Holland, Manheim, and Ephrata.

Kinderhook, on Chiques Hill, was an appointment on Ironville Circuit in 1887.

Lancaster, Laurel Street. This became a new appointment in 1910. John R. Bowermaster was serving the people there. The conference superintendent reported in 1911 the erection of a new chapel costing two-thousand and five hundred dollars. It was discontinued as a conference appointment in 1920.

Lexington was an appointment on Pannabecker's Circuit in 1855. (See Brunnerville Church.)

Lincoln, or **New Ephrata**, was an appointment in 1855, which was discontinued. Later, in 1890, a class was organized, but this was also dropped.

Maytown was an appointment on Marietta Circuit in 1881.

Marietta. A class was organized May 26, 1880, and a frame church building located in the western part, bought from the Methodists. The United Brethren rededicated it in June 1880. The trustees in 1883 were A. R. Lutz, Alexander McAfee, Joseph MacFarland, George Geiser, and Samuel Stacks. The valuation of the property was one-thousand dollars. It came over to East Pennsylvania Conference in 1882, and was subsequently attached to Florin, Ironville, and Royaltown; and was twice under the quarterly conference of Columbia Church. Over two periods it was on a circuit named Marietta. From 1899 to 1901 it was a station. G. S. K. Sample was its minister, 1899-1900; and B. M. Breneman, 1900-01. A committee appointed by annual conference session of 1915 reported to the session of 1917 that the property was sold for two hundred dollars. After all financial obligations were met a balance of forty-one dollars was turned over to the conference treasurer.

Meadville, Salisbury Township, was a class connected with Pequea Valley Circuit in 1879.

Millersville. Conference ordered, in 1880, that Millersville be taken up as an appointment. It had a very brief existence.

Millport, Warwick Township. The United Brethren held services in a Union Church erected in 1846. The Reist and Hostetter families, later affiliated with the Oregon congregation, lived nearby, and are buried in the cemetery adjoining the church lot. The appointment was on the Lancaster and Mountville Circuits, 1867-68.

Millwood. (See under Limeville Church)

Monterey, Upper Leacock Township. A brick church was erected in 1863. It once had a membership of eighty and was quite a flourishing congregation. Amos Miller was its chief promoter. The church was attached to the following circuits: New Holland, 1863-75; Intercourse, 1875-86; Lititz, 1886-87; Intercourse, 1887-88. In 1891 the presiding elder reported that only four members remained. A committee authorized by conference to sell the build-

ing did so in 1894. A. R. Kurtz, treasurer, reported a balance of \$351.35 after all obligations had been met, which amount was ordered to be paid to the trustees of the Intercourse Church to apply on cost of erection of their new church. The building stands at the south end of the village and is now used as a residence.

Moscow. A class by that name appears on conference records for a brief time. The locality is about five miles east of Gap in Salisbury Township.

Mt. Hope, Penn Township. When the Rev. John Boughter was pastor on Chestnut Grove Circuit, he reported a class of thirty-six members at Mt. Hope in 1895. David L. Lehman was a class leader, but the class had a brief existence. It was removed by only a few miles from Ruhl's Church and was probably absorbed by it.

Mt. Pleasant. In the year 1883 a frame church was erected in the north-western corner of Eden Township. Nearly an acre of ground was donated by David B. Graham to the trustees of "Mt. Zion United Brethren Church," i.e. John G. Smoker, John Helm, James A. Hamilton, Michael G. Rowe, and Samuel O. Keen. Prior to the building of the church, for about ten years, there was a class by this name. Before 1875 it was attached to New Holland Circuit; to Intercourse, 1875-78; Lancaster, 1878-81; Quarryville, 1881-84; Mt. Pleasant Mission, 1884-88; Lancaster Circuit, 1888-Feb. 1889; Mt. Pleasant Circuit, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; Lancaster Circuit, Oct. 1889-1890; Mt. Pleasant Circuit, 1893-96; and to St. John's, 1896. The deed stipulated that if religious worship ceased, the property was to revert to the owner. The Mennonites have been holding services in it since 1899.

New Danville, Pequea Township, was an appointment on Conestoga Circuit in 1875.

Reinholdsville, West Cocalico Township. A very substantial limestone structure located along the road from Reinholds Station to Reinholdsville was erected in 1848. A church book covering the years 1871-75 contains the names of fifty-three members. John H. Binkley was class leader and Simon Zimmerman was assistant. The ranks of its membership were greatly depleted as people moved to the more populous communities scattered from Reading to Ephrata. Similarity of surnames of members in the United Brethren Churches of these communities shows that the Reinholdsville class was a feeder for them.

For the last sixty years there has been little activity at this church. Mr. A. N. Shissler, of Lititz, for some years past has interested himself in arranging for annual home-coming services. For the last several years the Conference Commission on Town and Country Church has promoted similar meetings. Keen interest is shown in them by descendants of the church fathers who sang the praises of God within its walls in earlier years.

The record of circuit attachments is apparently incomplete. The available records show the following attachments: Sinking Spring, 1860-69; Schaefferstown, 1869-71; Sinking Spring, 1871-73; Schaefferstown, 1873-74; Brunerville, 1874-75; Hopeland, 1875-82; Ephrata, 1882-83; Hopeland, 1883-86; Ephrata, 1886-87.

Shock's Mills Class of twelve members (west of Marietta) was organized by L. R. Kramer in 1885 while he was pastor at Florin. It had a brief existence.

Slaymakersville, Salisbury Township, was an appointment of Pequea Valley Circuit, 1879-87; and Mt. Pleasant Circuit, 1887-88.

Smithville, Mt. Carmel Church, Providence Township. The congregation at Smithville worshipped in a building which had been used by the Methodists. It was the former Mt. Hope M. E. Church of Drumore Township. In 1863, William Johnson, on behalf of a few members of the class at Smithville, purchased it and moved it to an elevated piece of ground in the environs of Smithville. A half acre of ground was purchased from Dr. Benjamin Frick. It received the name Mt. Carmel. However, through several misfortunes encountered, it received the opprobrious name of "The Devil's

Half Acre." The building was entirely destroyed by fire in 1871, under rather suspicious circumstances. About two years later a frame church was built upon the site of the former one. In addition to Johnson and Frick, the names of Jacob S. Eshleman, Henry Reese, Tobias Finefrock, Peter Finefrock, Henry S. Calm, and Elizabeth Blecher are connected with the Church's history. It was attached to Mountville Circuit, 1863-67, and 1868-75; to Lancaster, 1867-68; and 1878-81; to Conestoga, 1875-76; Mt. Pleasant, 1876-78; and Quarryville, 1881-82; The building, still standing, was sold in 1882 and is now in use as a shed.

Smyrna, Sadsbury Township, was a new appointment on Mt. Pleasant Circuit in 1886.

Springville, Salisbury Township, was an appointment on Pequea Valley Circuit, 1879-87, and on Mt. Pleasant Circuit, 1887-88.

Strasburg Church. The Methodist built a brick church on South Decatur Street in the Borough of Strasburg in 1815. By deed dated April 9, 1870, a private party sold this church and lot to William Given Sr., Christian Mellinger, and Hiram Stauffer, board of trustees for the United Brethren in Christ, for the sum of \$473. Strasburg, however, was on the list of appointments of Lancaster Circuit as early as 1867. In 1868 it was attached to the Mountville Circuit. It was constituted a supply appointment in 1871 and Henry H. Stehman, who resided at Millersville, supplied it from that year until 1875. It was a part of Intercourse Circuit, 1875-76; Mt. Pleasant, 1876-78; Lancaster, 1878-81; and Quarryville, 1881-82. The property was sold in 1882 and the liabilities cancelled. The Good Templars bought it and used it as a Temperance Hall. It is at this writing used as a private dwelling. A half dozen or more tombstones partly covered with rubbish, piled along a garden fence to the rear of the building, bear mute testimony that there was a burial lot nearby.

White Rock, was an appointment on the following circuits: Strasburg, 1871-76; Mt. Pleasant, 1876-78, and 1881-84; and Lancaster, 1878-81.

Willow Street (See West Willow Church)

Notes

1. *Conference minutes*, 1882, p. 19, state specifically that Elizabethtown was a point on the Swatara Circuit. L.M. p. 128 states, J. L. Nicholas was the pastor. He was appointed to Florin that year. The Conference action may not have been carried out. Local records may show which is correct.
2. *Conference Minutes*, Oct. 1889, p. 37.
3. See LM, p. 125.
4. The first issue of the *Religious Telescope*, dated December 31, 1834 lists twenty-six centers in which there were agents for the paper, and among them is, "William Brown, Lancaster Pennsylvania." He was born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1796, joined the Old Conference in 1816, was ordained in 1819, served charges in the conference, was pastor of Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Maryland, 1825-28. At the close of his term as Bishop he located in Indiana. The annual conference proceedings (1800-1830) were transcribed by him in German from the originals, forming part of the volume of proceedings (1800-1861) in our possession since 1847.
5. Ezekiel Boring was born January 16, 1780, received annual license in 1825, served charges in the Old Conference, was transferred to West Pennsylvania Conference in 1846. He was agent for the *Religious Telescope* while in Lancaster in the year 1835-36. Ezekiel Boring Kephart is named after him.
7. See pp. 44-45.
8. See Florin Church.
9. Ellis and Evans—*History of Lancaster County*, p. 600.
10. *Lanc. Co. Hist. Soc. Publications*, vol. 2, p. 181ff.

Chapter VI

THE CHURCHES OF DAUPHIN COUNTY

1. A Preliminary Survey

The establishing of the United Brethren in Christ Church in Dauphin County was simultaneous with the movement in Lancaster County and followed the same general pattern. Dauphin County when erected in 1785 included all the present Lebanon County area. Lebanon County in turn became a distinct political unit in 1815. Newcomer's mention of place-names must therefore be studied carefully in order to determine whether the place named was in Dauphin County, as he states, or whether it was in Lebanon County as now constituted.

The movement centered in certain communities scattered through most of the county. These centers can be ascertained from Newcomer's mention of family and place-names. Preaching appointments made in localities where classes and churches later appear are as follows: in the Highspire-Oberlin region, at the homes of John Neidig, Jacob Roop, John Bodemar, and Henry Alleman; in Middletown, at the home of Doctor Roemer, and Mr. Gross; at Spring Creek (Hershey), at the Landis and Huber residences; at or near Hummelstown, the house of John Adam Riegel and of Henry Smith; at or near Harrisburg, the homes of John George Pfrimmer, Mr. Rettig, Mr. Guth, and Christian Haag; in Powell's Valley at the Greben home; in a church in Armstrong's Valley; and in Lykens Valley on the Viskeniskey's (Wiconisco) Creek. In addition, he lists a considerable number of others adjacent to the above centers or scattered along the routes of travel between them.

Foremost among the men who played important roles in the evangelical movement were John Neidig, John George Pfrimmer, and John Hershey, all of whom were members of the 1791 conference which met at John Spangler's in York County. John Adam Riegel after moving to Hummelstown in 1805 made some contributions to the work in that community. David Gingrich Sr., licensed sometime prior to 1812 visited the appointments in the lower end of the county. Jacob Roop of Highspire began his ministry in 1820 and for a period of sixty years had great influence. Jacob Erb whose home was across the Susquehanna from upper Harrisburg made a very definite contribution to the rising churches east of the river. The work of Henry Herr, a very active layman, whose residence was within the city limits of Harrisburg must also be considered.

In the sketches of local churches of upper Dauphin, the reader will come across mention being made of Methodist churches. This shows

a parallel and somewhat related Methodist movement in the area. The recital of a few items of their work serves as a background for the better understanding of the facts there set forth. In 1802 Jacob Gruber¹ was appointed to Dauphin Circuit of the Methodist Church by the Philadelphia Conference. The next year Gruber and Henry Boehm traveled the Dauphin Circuit. Boehm writes:² "The Circuit was very large and the people were mostly Germans. We had thirty appointments and at twenty of them we preached German." As a result of the work of these men and their successors a log church was erected in Halifax by the Methodists in 1806.

In 1807 Henry Boehm and William Hunter were appointed to work between the Susquehanna and the Delaware. Boehm tells the following story:³

In 1790 my old school teacher left Lancaster, and I did not know where he had gone. One Sabbath in July of this year (1807) while preaching in a barn in Lykens Valley I saw an intelligent-looking man viewing me intently through his spectacles. I wondered who he was, and where I had seen him. Behold it was my old schoolmaster that I had not seen since I was his pupil eighteen years before. He was a Lutheran—he became a minister and was pastor of a church west of the Susquehanna.⁴

2. The Circuits of Dauphin County

Increase of the number of preaching appointments and a more intensive ministerial service called for a division of the original Lancaster County area. So far as can be ascertained from conference proceedings, this division was made officially in the year 1831. It was named Halifax Circuit after the village on the right bank of the Susquehanna which, when laid out took the name of a fort located about a mile to the north, was built to protect settlers of the region during the French and Indian War.

A close study of assignments of ministers by annual conference between 1810 and 1830, and of the geographical setting, leads to the conclusion that the upper region of Dauphin County was served by itinerants appointed to circuits named for points west of the Susquehanna. Annual conference of the year 1810 directed George Brown to serve a circuit in Pfautz's Valley.

From 1816 to 1826 Juniata Circuit appears regularly on the list of conference appointments. In 1828 Susquehanna Circuit is on the list. Because of the distance by which upper Dauphin County was removed from the heart of Lancaster Circuit, and because of its proximity to the German settlements directly across the river, it was natural that upper Dauphin be served by itinerants appointed to the above mentioned circuits rather than by those appointed to Lancaster Circuit.

At that time there was a ferry across the Susquehanna about four miles above Halifax. Joseph Lytle moved from Marietta to the re-

gion in 1773 and shortly thereafter began operating a ferry. It became, under its several subsequent owners, the most important crossing between Harris' Ferry and Sunbury. It is quite evident that Newcomer and other itinerants of his day used the ferry to meet their appointments lying east and west of the river near this point.

In 1833 the name of Halifax Circuit was changed to Dauphin Circuit. It remained so in name and boundary for a period of ten years. The first of a long series of divisions was made in 1843. In that year Peter's Mountain was fixed as the dividing line and the appointments and classes north of that line constituted a circuit which received the older name, Halifax; while those south of that line continued under the name, Dauphin Circuit.

Some idea of the extent of Halifax Circuit, as well as other interesting items, are gleaned from an article written by the Rev. John A. Sand who was appointed to it in 1843. The article appeared in the Religious Telescope under date of October 11, 1843, and is as follows:

We have just closed our campmeeting on the Halifax Circuit, the results of which I now send for publication. The meeting commenced on Friday, August 25. The brethren pitched their tents early in the day, numbering about thirty-two. The Lord presided over our campmeeting, and we had a good soul refreshing time on Sunday morning in our Love-feast. The Lord was with us in infinite mercy, sinners felt the convicting power, and mourners flocked to the bench to be prayed for. To the best of my knowledge we had about thirty-five hopeful conversions, and twenty-two gave us their names as church members, and we hope their hearts to God. Eighteen persons were baptized, seventeen by immersion and one kneeling in the stream. When I came to my circuit from conference, I had twelve regular appointments, but since that time the circuit has enlarged considerably, and now I have a multiplicity of invitations from adjacent parts of different people to preach at their home.

Reference to the statistical report for the year 1848-49 will show the strength of the denomination in Dauphin County at that time. There were three charges: Dauphin Circuit with fourteen classes and 357 members, Halifax Circuit with ten classes and 279 members, and Highspire Station composed of four classes and eighty-nine members, or a combined membership of 715 enrolled in twenty-eight classes.

To trace in every detail the subsequent divisions of the Dauphin area and the constant shifting of boundaries would be a very complicated process and would make too long a story. In its stead there follows a listing of all circuits; first, according to chronological order to show when created and how long continued; and second, in alphabetical order with ministerial appointees. Attachment of local churches to circuits is indicated under local church sketches.

Chronological Order of Circuits

Halifax Circuit (1), 1831-33; Dauphin Circuit (1), 1833-57; Halifax Circuit (2), 1843-72; Highspire Circuit (1), 1845-71; Hummelstown Circuit (1), 1853-57; Lykens Valley Circuit (1), 1854-1922; Dauphin-Hummelstown Circuit, 1857-58; Dauphin Circuit (2), 1858-64; Hummelstown Circuit (2), 1858-66; Harrisburg Circuit (1), 1864-68; Union Deposit Circuit (1), 1866-93; Hummelstown Circuit (3), 1869-71; Hummelstown Circuit (4), 1872-83; Harrisburg Circuit (2), 1869-73; Hummelstown-Highspire Circuit, 1871-72; Highspire Circuit (2), 1872-88; Grantville Circuit (1), 1873-Feb. 1889; Linglestown Circuit, 1873-77; Jacksonville Circuit, 1873-1919; Williams Valley Circuit, 1873-84; Swatara Circuit (1), 1875-79; Harrisburg Circuit (3), 1877-88; Conewago Circuit, 1879-81; Swatara Circuit (2), 1882-85; Fishing Creek Circuit, 1885-88; Fishburn's Circuit, 1885-1901; East Harrisburg Circuit, 1888-99; Grantville Circuit (2), 1893-1946; Harrisburg Circuit (4), 1899-1910; Derry Church (Hershey) Circuit, 1901-04; Hillsdale Circuit, 1901-46; Union Deposit Circuit (2), 1904-06; Linglestown Circuit (2), 1910-46; Stoverdale Circuit, 1917-29; Enders Circuit, 1919-34; Powell's Valley Circuit, 1919-34; Lykens Valley Circuit (2), 1923-26; Hummelstown Circuit (5), 1929-46; and Enders-Powells Valley Circuit, 1943-46.

Alphabetical Order of Circuits with Ministerial Appointments:

Conewago Circuit, 1879-81; Amos Graul, 1879-80; William Lamey, 1880-Feb. 1881; Lewis Fleisher, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881.

Dauphin Circuit (1), 1833-57: Jacob Roop, John C. Smith, 1833-34; Jacob Snyder, 1834-35; Daniel Funkhouser, 1835-37; Jacob Erb, 1837-38; Enoch Hoffman, 1838-39; Jacob Roop, 1839-40; Jacob S. Kessler, 1840-41; Adam Noon, Henry Esensy, 1841-42; John Adam Sand, Simon Noll, 1842-43; Henry Staub, Simon Noll, 1843-44; Samuel Enterline, John C. Smith, 1844-45; Samuel Enterline, Frederick Gilbert, 1845-46; Jacob Sholler, John Moyer, 1846-47; David Gingrich Jr., George Smith, 1847-48; David Gingrich Jr., Henry Staub, 1848-49; Henry Staub, Solomon VonNieda, 1849-50; David Hoffman, George Gilbert, 1850-51; David Hoffman, Samuel Seiders, 1851-52; Christian Peffley, Jacob Brewer, 1852-53; John Q. Adams, 1853-55; Jacob Roop, 1855-56; D. M. Kauffman, 1856-57.

Dauphin Circuit (2), 1858-64; Simon Noll, 1858-60; Wesley Dietrich, 1860-62; John H. Lowery, 1862-64.

Dauphin-Hummelstown Circuit, 1857-58: Samuel Seiders, Henry Loose.

Derry Church (Hershey) Circuit, 1901-04: H. L. Eichinger, 1901-02; I. Moyer Hershey, 1902-03; H. M. Klinger, 1903-04.

East Harrisburg Circuit, 1888-99: M. J. Mumma, 1888-Oct. 1889; M. A. Salt, Oct. 1889-92; G. F. Bierman, 1892-93; William Beach, 1893-99.

Elizabethville Circuit, (See Elizabethville Church).

Enders Circuit, 1919-34: W. E. Shoop, 1919-22; W. D. Krick, 1922-23;

W. D. Krick, M. G. Sponsler, 1923-24; M. G. Sponsler, 1924-28; R. H. Arndt, 1928-29; T. J. Leibold, 1929-30; G. W. Hess, 1930-34.

Enders-Powell's Valley Circuit, 1934-46; M. G. Sponsler, 1934-35; Roy Spangler, 1935-36; Grant N. Miller, 1936-37; W. E. Sherriff, 1937-41; A. W. Dambach, 1941-42; H. E. Fogelman, 1942-43; H. E. Fogelman, Dale R. Beittel, 1943-44; H. E. Fogelman, Herman E. Smith, 1944-46.

Fishburn's Circuit, 1885-1901: J. W. Boughter, 1885-87; P. L. Hains, 1887-89; A. M. Hackman, 1889-91; A. M. Hackman, P. A. Bowman, 1891-92; W. W. Fridinger, 1892-95; P. A. Bowman, 1895-99; M. M. Weber, 1899-1901.

Fishing Creek Circuit, 1885-88: John Binkley, 1885-88.

Grantville Circuit (1), 1873-Feb. 1889; J. B. Jones, 1873-74; Samuel Phreaner, 1874-75; J. D. Killian, 1875-77; James G. Fritz, 1877-79; J. R. Meredith, 1879-81; J. B. Daugherty, 1881-84; Jacob Runk, 1884-85; Uriah Gambler, 1885-88; M. B. Spayd, 1888-Feb. 1889.

Grantville Circuit (2), 1893-1946: H. M. Miller, 1893-95; M. E. Bachman, 1895-98; M. M. Weber, 1898-99; P. A. Bowman, H. L. Eichinger, 1899-1900; H. L. Eichinger, 1900-01; P. L. Hains, 1901-03; H. M. Trautman, 1903-06; H. H. Hoffer, 1906-10; A. S. Beckley, 1910-12; R. S. Arndt, 1912-14; N. I. Fake, 1914-16; C. A. Sollenberger, 1916-17; H. A. Smith, G. W. Schwalm, 1917-18; G. W. Hess, 1918-20; P. E. Fridinger, 1920-22; R. E. Morgan, 1922-25; Ira R. Fortna, 1925-27; I. B. Koons, 1927-31; O. G. Romig, M. E. Patrick, 1931-32; M. E. Patrick, 1932-39; E. M. Strickler, 1939-41; W. E. Sherriff, 1941-43; Charles E. Parmer, 1943-46.

Halifax Circuit (1), 1831-33: William Scholde, 1831-32; James Neiman, 1832-33.

Halifax Circuit (2), 1843-72: John A. Sand, 1843-44; Jacob Sholler, 1844-46; Jacob Roop, Joseph Young Jr., 1846-47; Joseph Young Jr., Thomas Leshner, 1847-48; Henry Schropp, 1848-49; Henry Schropp, Henry Loose, 1849-50; Thomas Leshner, Andrew Steigerwalt, 1850-51; Andrew Steigerwalt, J. Q. Adams, 1851-53; Henry Loose, P. J. Riland, 1853-54; Henry Loose, 1854-55; H. W. Landis, 1855-56; H. E. Hackman, 1856-57; Simon Zimmerman, 1857-59; Henry Hilbish, C. J. Burkert, 1859-60; G. W. Hoffman, 1860-62; Amos F. Yeager, 1862-64; Israel Carpenter, J. G. Clair, 1864-65; J. G. Clair, 1865-67; John W. Kunkel, 1867-68; Amos F. Yeager, 1868-69; Joseph Young Jr., 1869-70; Frederick List, John W. Geiger, 1870-71; John W. Geiger, 1871-72.

Harrisburg Circuit (1), 1864-68: David Moyer, 1864-67; J. G. Clair, 1867-68.

Harrisburg Circuit (2), 1869-73: H. E. Hackman, 1869-70; H. V. Mohn, Joel Light, 1870-71; Joel Light, 1871-72; J. B. Jones, 1872-73.

Harrisburg Circuit (3), 1877-88; John Garman, M. P. Sanders, 1877-78; M. P. Sanders, 1878-79; Thomas Garland, 1879-81; G. A. Loose, 1881-83; C. W. Hutzler, 1883-86; E. L. Hughes, 1885-87; M. J. Mumma, 1887-88.

Harrisburg Circuit (4) 1899-1910; H. H. Hoffer, 1899-1901; A. S. Lehman, 1901-03; J. E. Francis, 1903-04; B. M. Breneman, 1904-07; J. C. Pease, 1907-09; P. T. Roberts, W. E. Shoop, 1909-10.

Highspire Circuit (1), 1845-71; J. S. Kessler, 1845-46; Simon Dressbach, 1846-47; Daniel Funkhouser, 1847-48; Daniel Funkhouser, George Smith, 1848-49; Samuel Seiders, 1849-51; Simon Dressbach, Jacob Roop, 1851-52; Simon Noll, 1852-53; Joseph Young Jr., 1853-55; Peter Zimmerman, 1855-56; Simon Zimmerman, 1856-57; Jacob Brewer, 1857-58; J. S. Kessler, 1858-59; J. B. Daughtery, L. W. Craumer, 1859-60; J. B. Daughtery, Lewis Fleisher, 1860-61; Jeremiah P. Smith, 1861-64; J. G. Clair, 1864-65; G. W. Hoffman, 1865-67; Jeremiah P. Smith, 1867-68; J. C. Mumma, 1868-69; J. Lewis Smith, M. J. Mumma, 1869-70; William B. Evers, 1870-71.

Highspire Circuit (2), 1872-88: David O'Farrel, W. D. Mower, P. A. Bowman, 1872-73; Isaiah Baltzell, H. C. Phillips, 1873-74; Hiram Neaffer, 1874-76; Thomas Garland, 1876-79; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1879-80; A. H. Kauffman, 1880-82; J. Lower Grimm, 1882-85; Z. A. Weidler, 1885-87; E. L. Hughes, 1887-88.

Hillsdale Circuit, 1901-46: I. N. Seldomridge, 1901-02; J. Warren Kauffman, 1902-03; P. L. Hains, 1903-06; C. W. Shoop, 1906-09; P. A. Bowman, 1909-10; Ira D. Lowery, 1910-11; William Beach, 1911-15; J. E. Morrison, 1915-16; R. S. Heberlig, Paul E. V. Shannon, 1916-17; E. F. Castetter, 1917-18; E. F. Castetter, H. C. Kottler, 1918-19; E. M. Rhoad, 1919-22; Lester M. Leech, 1922-24; Lester M. Leech, E. M. Rhoad, 1924-25; A. W. Dambach, 1925-32; G. Jay Umberger, 1932-35; Grant N. Miller, 1935-36; Roy Spangler, 1936-37; Clair Hitz, 1937-41; Samuel H. Stoner, 1941-42; Charles W. Wolfe, 1942-44; Dale R. Beittel, 1944-45; Marlin D. Seiders, 1945-46.

Hummelstown Circuit (1), 1853-57: Jacob Brewer, Andrew Steigewalt, 1853-54; Christian Kauffman, Jacob Roop, 1854-55; Christian Kauffman, Wesley Dietrich, 1855-56; Henry Loose, J. B. Daughtery, 1856-57.

Hummelstown Circuit (2), 1858-66: G. A. Mark Jr., Ephraim Light, 1858-59; J. S. Kessler, Jacob Runk, 1859-60; H. W. Landis, Rudolph Light, 1860-61; H. W. Landis, Simon Zimmerman, 1861-62; Simon Zimmerman, Jacob H. Mark, 1862-63; Lewis Peters, Jacob Doerkson, 1863-64; Jacob Doerkson, Josiah P. Long, 1864-65; Jeremiah P. Smith, Simon Zimmerman, I. L. Kephart, 1865-66.

Hummelstown Circuit (3), 1869-71: Israel Carpenter.

Hummelstown Circuit (4), 1872-83: (See Hummelstown Church).

Hummelstown Circuit (5), 1929-46: J. W. Luckens, 1929-31; W. E. Sherriff, 1931-32; S. G. Haas, 1932-34; C. F. Rupp, C. R. Longenecker, 1934-35; J. C. Deitzler, 1935-38; C. O. Goodman, 1938-40; C. O. Goodman, H. W. Deaven, 1941-42; Thomas W. Guinivan, 1942-43; Thomas W. Guinivan, Stephen Raby, 1943-44; Stephen Raby, 1944-45; Eugene B. Wenger, 1945-46.

Hummelstown-Highspire Circuit, 1871-72; David O'Farrel.

Jacksonville Circuit, 1873-1919: J. D. Killian, 1873-75; G. A. Loose, 1875-77; H. B. Dohner, 1877-80; Jacob Runk, 1880-82; H. W. Zimmerman, 1882-84; M. B. Spayd, 1884-86; J. G. W. Herrold, 1886-89; S. R. Gipple, 1889-91; Horace G. Clair, 1891-92; G. W. Enders, George Shindler, 1892-93; A. M. Hackman, 1893-94; M. M. Weber, 1894-97; M. E. Bachman, 1900-01; J. E. Francis, 1901-03; James Shoop, 1903-04; J. E. Keene, 1904-08; A. N. Ulrich, 1908-10; G. W. Hess, 1910-13; J. C. Pease, 1913-16; H. H. Fertig, 1916-19.

Linglestown Circuit (2), 1910-46: C. G. White, 1910-12; C. A. Lynch, 1912-18; L. D. Gottschall, 1918-19; L. D. Gottschall, R. S. Heberlig, 1919-20; R. S. Arndt, 1920-23; E. E. Saul, 1923-24; A. G. Nye, 1924-26; Wm. O. Rhoad, 1926-30; Wm. J. Book, R. L. Shay, 1930-31; C. E. Ulrich, 1940-46.

Lykens Valley Circuit (1), 1854-1922: Jacob Doerkson, 1854-55; J. G. Fritz, 1855-56; H. W. Landis, 1856-57; J. G. Fritz, 1857-59; David Moyer, Conrad Geist, 1859-60; David Moyer, 1860-61; George A. Mark Jr., 1861-63; David Moyer, Jacob Runk, 1863-64; H. E. Hackman, Job Light, Jacob Runk, 1864-65; H. E. Hackman, John H. Lowery, 1865-66; H. E. Hackman, 1866-67; Simon Noll, 1867-69; John W. Kunkle, 1869-72; S. V. Mohn, 1872-73; Jacob H. Mark, 1873-76; H. E. Hackman, 1876-79; Joel Light, 1879-82; Jacob Runk, 1882-84; Amos Lehman, 1884-87; H. S. Gabel, 1887-89; Uriah Gambler, 1889-90; William Lamey, 1890-92; H. W. Zimmerman, 1892-95; James Shoop, 1895-96; A. G. Nye, 1896-1900; M. H. Jones, 1900-02; W. W. Fridinger, 1902-03; D. E. Long, 1903-04; H. F. Rhoad, 1904-07; B. F. Goodman, 1907-10; S. G. Haas, 1910-12; M. H. Miller, 1912-14; S. L. Rhoads, 1914-17; G. W. Rothermal, 1917-18; G. W. Rothermal, A. E. Shroyer, 1918-19; A. J. D. Shoemaker, 1919-20; J. C. Deitzler, 1920-22.

Lykens Valley Circuit (2), 1923-26: C. S. Miller.

Powell's Valley Circuit, 1919-34: H. C. Mathias, 1919-25; Byron W. Sheetz, 1925-28; M. G. Sponsler, 1928-34.

Stoverdale Circuit, 1917-29: J. E. Oliver, 1917-19; W. D. Krick, 1919-21; E. P. Kratzer, 1921-23; James Bingham, 1923-25; James Bingham, Wm. C. Blatt, 1926-29.

Swatara Circuit (1), 1875-79: John H. Lowery, 1875-77; Amos Graul, 1877-79.

Swatara Circuit (2), 1882-85; A. H. Hackman, 1882-83; John H. Lowery, 1883-84; Ephraim Light, Simon Noll, 1884-85.

Union Deposit Circuit (1), 1866-93: Simon Zimmerman, 1866-67; John Moyer, 1867-68; Henry Schropp, J. W. Boughter, 1868-69; Simon Noll, 1869-71; Andrew Steigerwalt, 1871-72; John Binkley, 1872-74; John Binkley, George Stoll, 1874-75; Lewis Fleisher, 1875-76; S. M. Hummel, 1876-77; H. H. Gelbach, 1877-78; J. B. Daugherty, 1878-79; D. S. Longenecker, 1879-82; Simon Noll, 1882-84; P. L. Hains, 1884-87; H. W. Zimmerman, 1887-89; P. A. Bowman, 1889-91; H. M. Miller, 1891-93.

Union Deposit Circuit (2), 1904-46: H. S. Kiefer, 1904-05; N. L. Linebaugh, 1905-07; W. C. Shoop, 1907-09; William Beach, 1909-11; O. G. Romig, 1911-14; G. W. Hallman, 1914-17; J. R. MacDonald, 1917-27; H. Ray Harris, 1927-31; J. Howard Burtner, 1931-34; H. C. Mark, 1934-39; Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1939-42; Wm. G. Grosz, 1942-46.

Williams Valley Circuit, 1873-84: S. V. Mohn, 1873-74; Amos Graul, 1874-76; J. P. Miller, 1876-77; James Shoop, 1877-78; Jacob Runk, 1878-81; Amos Lehman, 1881-82; Gottlieb Myer, 1882-84.

3. The Churches of Dauphin County

Berrysburg Church, Mifflin Township

The Rev. S. V. Mohn while traveling Lykens Valley Circuit in 1872-73 began holding services in a hall in Berrysburg. Mr. William Sweitzer, a member of the class, purchased the hall in 1892, for use of the congregation. Brother Sweitzer, David Deibler, and William Forney were elected trustees. After purchase, the lower floor of the building was transformed into a sanctuary for Divine worship.

In 1931 the room was completely renovated and new oak pews and other furnishings were installed. The cost amounting to \$2,300 was paid in full by the time reopening services were held. The Rev. A. G. Nye, a former pastor, preached on that occasion, December 13, 1931, at the morning hour of worship. Visiting ministers



Berrysburg Church



Forney's Church

brought greetings at the afternoon service, and Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached at the evening service. The pastor, R. G. Becktel was in charge of the day's service.

The church has been attached to the following charges: Lykens Valley Circuit, 1873-1926; Elizabethville Church, 1926-29; Tremont Church, 1929-32; Elizabethville Church, 1932-39; Williamstown Church, 1939-42; and Elizabethville Church, 1942-46.

Trustees for the property are: John Neiman, Norman Miller, Mrs. Carroll Kebach, Robert Miller, and LeRoy Baker. John Deibler is superintendent of the Sunday school. The Rev. Henry A. Buffington, born June 20, 1863 at Pillow, joined this conference in 1885, and served several charges in it until he transferred to Allegheny Conference in 1899. For a number of years past he has been living in retirement in Berryburg.

Chambers' Hill Church, Swatara Township

In the Colonial period there was a ferry across the Susquehanna River in the vicinity of lower Steelton which was named after its owner, a man by the name of Chambers. In due course of time a route of travel was opened which ran from this ferry in a northeasterly direction, passing through Oberlin, then following the crest of elevated land and connecting with the Paxtang Road on the so-called Hummelstown Hill. As late as the year 1872 when the Chambers' Hill Church was erected this road was still known as the Chambers' Ferry Road, the church being erected on the north side of it, two miles west from the juncture of two roads above mentioned.

The house of worship erected in 1872 was a joint project of three denominations. Michael Page sold one acre of ground for the sum of \$200 to David Rupp, trustee for the Lutherans, Solomon L. Swartz, trustee for the United Brethren, and Samuel Page, trustee for the River Brethren. By two separate instruments, the trustees drew up agreements concerning the use and upkeep of the house of worship. Though the legal status has never been altered, the practice has changed considerably. The United Brethren alone for a number of years have had use of the building for regular congregational worship. The Sunday school continues to function as a union school and it provides the finances for maintenance of the property.

In 1891 the first building was utterly destroyed by a cyclone. A second building of brick was erected during the ministry of the Rev. E. A. G. Bossler, pastor of the Oberlin charge of which Chambers' Hill congregation was a part at the time. It was dedicated by the Rev. M. B. Spayd on September 4, 1892. This building was much improved in 1930 at a cost of \$1,550, improvements consisting of the placing of a metal ceiling, new floors and pews, and repainting of the exterior and the interior. In 1938 the chancel was carpeted and an additional building purchased for Sunday school and social purposes.

George Balsbaugh, Samuel Eshenauer, John Straub, Christian F. Rupp, and Millard O'Neal have been associate or acting superintendents of the Sunday school for the United Brethren. Class leaders who have served this class have been Samuel Rupp, Henry Schroy, Samuel Eshenauer, and Christian F. Rupp. The trustee board at this present consists of Joseph Strite, Harvey Page, Harry Ricker, Martin Page, Roy Witmer, and Christian F. Rupp, all of whom are United Brethren; and Aaron Eichner who is a member of the Reformed Church.

Christian F. Rupp represented the charge at a number of sessions of annual conference. His son, J. Paul Rupp, one of the judges of the Dauphin County courts, united with this church in his youth. S. Edwin Rupp, member of this conference from 1900 to 1926, was licensed by vote of this class.

The Chambers' Hill Class has been affiliated with the following circuits: Highspire, 1872-73; Hummelstown, 1873-75; Highspire, 1875-1888; Oberlin, 1888-93; East Harrisburg, 1893-99; Harrisburg, 1899-1910; Hummelstown Circuit, 1929-1946. From 1910 to 1929 it was connected with Ebenezer Church to form the Chambers' Hill and Ebenezer charge, and the following brethren were its ministers: W. C. Shoop, 1910-1911; C. A. Lynch, 1911-1912; Harry E. Ulrich, 1912-1913; C. L. Earley, 1913-1914; M. A. Wagner, 1914-1917; C. L. Earley, 1917-1919; Roy Spangler, 1919-1921; James Bingham, 1921-1922; and O. G. Romig, 1922-1929.

Colonial Park Church

The Colonial Park Church was built by the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society at the corner of Jonestown Road and Madison Street (Forty-first Street, Harrisburg extended), without either a church or Sunday school organization, at the cost of \$40,000. The conference of 1922 adopted a resolution, presented by said society, to purchase the lot at the above site for the price of \$3,500. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, laid the cornerstone June 29, 1924, and dedicated the beautiful brick edifice January 14, 1925.

The Rev. F. C. Aungst who was appointed to the Linglestown-Colonial Park charge in the fall of 1924, enrolled thirty-seven persons as Sunday school members on the Sabbath following dedication. Then followed six weeks of effort to secure a church membership. In that period ending with March 1, twenty persons were received into membership by letter of transfer and fifteen on profession of faith, who constituted the Charter Membership. The names of this class were: Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Aungst; Mr. and Mrs. James Atticks, Mrs. Hettie Atticks; Mrs. Jennie Buck, Mrs. Amanda E. Dietz; Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Dudley and daughters Mae and Ida; Mr. and Mrs. John W. Dymond and children, Myrtle, Stanley, Howard, and Jennie; William H. Hess; Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Hoerner; Mrs. Irene N. Irwin; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Kern and daughter Eneica; Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Lynch; Mr. Isaac Page and daughter



Colonial Park Church

Gladys; Mrs. Agnes Shultz; Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Shott and daughter Mary; Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Swartz; and Mrs. Irene Buck Wenrich.

Inasmuch as the establishing of this church is a conference mission project, certain members of the above Society have remained as members of the local trustee board. Congregational members of the trustee board have been: Frank R. Shott, John W. Dymond, A. L. Behney, J. A. Coffman, J. B. Brinton, D. C. Lynch, H. A. Early Sr., Levi S. Plouse, R. A. Arnold Sr., and Claude S. Houck. Brothers Shott, Behney, Hoerner, and Plouse have in the order named served as superintendents of the Sunday school. Howard E. Bertsfield is the present incumbent; and the departmental heads are: for the adults, A. A. Burrell; for the young people, Mrs. Wilbur Beam, and for the children, Mrs. H. E. Bertsfield; H. F. Egenreider is the treasurer.

In the conference year 1927-28, a Women's Missionary Society was organized with a membership of twenty-two, Mrs. George W. Johns is now its president, and Mrs. Harry A. Early is treasurer. An Otterbein Guild was organized in 1932. Its president is Betty Early, and Jane Rode is treasurer. Rowe W. Bickel is the president of the Otterbein Brotherhood which was organized in 1944. A Senior Christian Endeavor Society has been operating since the first year

of church organization, and since then a Junior Society also was organized.

This new congregation is very active and is making steady advances. A day of ingathering annually observed brings in ever increasing amounts of cash which is being applied on reduction of original debt and current renovations and equipment—the amount for the twentieth anniversary year was \$6,005.12. A fund of \$8,000 is in hand for a proposed parsonage. The church membership has risen from thirty-five to 307, and the Sunday school enrollment from thirty-seven to 457. Thus the vision and faith of the conference superintendent and his co-planners have been translated into tangible and living form. Anniversary occasions have an air of praise and victory. Three music organizations: Church Choir, Girls' Chorus and Men's Chorus, add greatly to the spirit of worship. Much of their contribution is due to the faithful service of Mrs. C. I. Zimmerman, conductor; and Mrs. Joseph Dailey, organist.

Under the ministry of the Rev. Clarence E. Ulrich, pastor since 1940, signal success has been achieved and forward looking measures have been initiated. The complete list of ministers is as follows: F. C. Aungst, 1924-26; A. G. Nye, 1926-28; William O. Rhoad, 1928-30; William J. Book, (supply), and R. L. Shay, 1930-31; R. L. Shay, 1931-40; and C. E. Ulrich, 1940-46.

Ebenezer Church, Halifax Township

The church is in the northwestern end of Halifax Township about a mile north of the Halifax-Millersburg road, along a road which branches off northward at a point about midway between these two towns. A class of members known as the "Gilbert's Class" held services in the Gilbert's Schoolhouse before the erection of a house of worship. A frame church building was erected in the year 1874, and dedicated in November of the same year. Casper Heckert, Aaron Zimmerman, and Isaac Chubb, trustees, bought a plot of ground forty by one hundred and ninety-eight feet, for the sum of \$50. These men together with W. M. Heckert, W. F. Freeland, and Charles Chubb were active in the early work of the congregation.

During the summer of 1943 the church was repainted. The work at Ebenezer has been greatly revived, as is evidenced by the organization of young people's work, and other spiritual movements. The care of the property is entrusted to the following trustees: Mrs. Blanche Hoffman, Mrs. H. M. Bower, Robert Hoffman, John W. Lebo, and LeRoy Shepley. The last named is superintendent of the Sunday school.

The church has been attached to the following circuits: Jacksonville, 1874-75; Halifax Station, 1875-1877; Jacksonville, 1877-82; Halifax Station, 1882-1915; Jacksonville Circuit, 1915-1919; Enders, 1919-1934; and Enders and Powells Valley, 1934-46.

Ebenezer Church, Lower Swatara Township

The evangelical influence of the Oberlin and the Highspire congregations issued in the organization of "Balsbaugh's Class" some-

time prior to 1846. John Balsbaugh, its leader, lived a half mile west of the Ebenezer Church which stands about two miles north of Highspire along the Middletown-Oberlin road. In 1851 it was known as "Eshenauer's Class." George Eshenauer, whose farm was a half mile beyond Balsbaugh's toward Oberlin was its leader. Peter Corl, a local preacher, Samuel Ulrich, and John Balsbaugh were also leaders, and Christopher Shenk and R. H. Riter were class stewards. Solomon L. Swartz, upon his conversion in the year 1861 joined the class, was elected its leader, and served in that capacity for a period of thirty years.

After having held services in members' homes for more than twenty years these lay leaders built a house of worship, probably in the year 1865. The deed of transfer for the property dated January 26, 1866, clearly shows that "Ebenezer Church" had already been erected. Elijah Balsbaugh and wife Anna were the grantors and Solomon L. Swartz, Samuel Ulrich, and John Balsbaugh, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ, were the grantees. In 1873 a half acre of ground some rods north of the church lot was bought for a burial ground. Brothers Swartz and Ulrich, and Elijah Balsbaugh were trustees for the congregation at that time.

There is no particular reason for singling out the Ebenezer Church to recite an incident pertaining to the moral status of an official member. A certain official member of this congregation held a tavern license. At a quarterly conference held at one of the churches of the circuit the presiding elder made a motion that the minister of the charge exhort the member "with regard to his tavern license, according to the rules laid down in Discipline." This brother was an influential citizen of Lower Swatara Township. Five years prior to the lodging of this complaint against him in the quarterly meeting, he was one of four men to use their influence in having the township adopt the Free Public School System, and at the same time also he made a generous contribution toward the erection of the church in Highspire. Whether the action of the quarterly was carried out subsequent records fail to disclose but from his later relation to the work we infer that he complied with the exhortation. Every quarterly conference record book we have yet examined reveals a wide variety of numerous complaints dealt with. Most of them had to do with failure on the part of elders to hold class meetings regularly, of stewards in failing to collect their quarterage, and of local preachers in their failure to attend meetings, or in not preaching as often as they should. There are many instances of personal grievances among non-official members.

The building when erected was a frame structure built along simple lines without tower or bell. These were added in the year 1882 at a cost of something over \$400. In 1899 improvements costing about \$300 were made. In the year 1908 the family of the deceased Solomon L. Swartz had the church beautifully frescoed and had painted on the walls two life-size pictures of Christ.

Brother Swartz was an elder in the conference, though never

serving as an itinerant. He received annual conference license in the year 1871 and was ordained an elder eight years later. After having resided near the Ebenezer Church for sixty-four years, he with his family moved to Middletown. Soon after moving there he was elected a class leader for the church at Middletown and in this office he served faithfully and earnestly until he was called to his heavenly home, October 6, 1907, at the age of eighty years and nineteen days.

John Balsbaugh, the first class leader, and his wife Mary Shoop had three sons who took an active part in the work at Ebenezer; their names being Elijah, Solomon, and Henry. Elijah, followed by Solomon, both served in the capacity of class leader and Sunday school superintendent. A son of Henry, Frank by name, who is still active in the work of the congregation, has been class leader and superintendent for many years. John Walters and Christian Swartz also held these offices. The present superintendent is Norman Shope, and he together with Edgar Lindemuth, Frank Balsbaugh, and Clair Shope constitute the trustee board.

Ebenezer Church has been attached to the following circuits and charges: Highspire, 1846-61; Lancaster, 1861-63; Highspire, 1863-69; Hummelstown, 1869-71; Highspire, 1871-88; Oberlin, 1888-93; East Harrisburg, 1893-99; Harrisburg, 1899-1910; Chamber Hill and Ebenezer, 1910-29; and Hummelstown Circuit, 1929-46.

Elizabethville, Trinity Church

The circuit riders who travelled the Halifax and Dauphin circuits in going up the valley of Wiconisco Creek did such effective work that as early as 1834 United Brethren had some share in building a church, known as "Motter's," located one mile east of Elizabethville. The Methodists and United Brethren cooperated in erecting this church. Henry Kuntzelman Sr., who preached in the German language for the Methodists sold a tract of ninety-two and a half square perches of land, fronting on the North side of the road leading from Millersburg to Lykens to John Motter Jr., Isaac Motter, and Henry Kuntzelman Jr., "Trustees legally elected and appointed by the Methodists and United Brethren in Christ congregations in Union, for the love and affection they (Henry Kuntzelman and wife, Mary, sic) have and bear to the said congregations and the further consideration of one dollar." The deed of transfer is dated October 20, 1834.

The United Brethren separately bought a small plot of ground, 48x60 feet, adjoining the original Motter's Church lot on its west, from Henry Motter and wife Mary in 1863. The deed of transfer cites that said lot adjoins on its east property of the Methodists and the United Brethren in Christ. Trustees named in the deed are: Josiah Buffington, Augustus Bauder, Thomas Motter, Nicholas Motter, and Washington Motter. On this lot the United Brethren built a frame church. The preachers who served the congregations worshiping in these two buildings, successively, were those ap-

**Elizabethville Church****Lykens Church**

pointed to the following circuits: Dauphin, 1834-43; Halifax, 1843-54; Lykens Valley, 1854-73; Williams Valley, 1873-74; Lykens Valley, 1874-93; and Elizabethville charge, 1893 . . .

The annual conference took a series of actions regarding the Motter's Church property. In 1916 it elected H. G. Foster, D. J. Ringle, and E. O. Hoffman to dispose of the property. The next year the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society took over as custodians. The church was sold in 1919 for the sum of \$250, excluding the bell and the stoves, and in 1920 it was ordered that all money accruing from sale of property be turned over to the trustees of the Elizabethville Church for upkeep of the cemetery adjoining the former Motter's Church lot.

This early work at Motter's Church and other United Brethren churches of the rural communities of the Lykens Valley were the contributory sources for the beginning of the work in the town of Elizabethville, which was in about the year 1873. That section of the town in which our present property is located was formerly known as "Cross Roads," and then later as "Washington Square." The Methodists erected a house of worship in Washington Square in the year 1871. The church and lot were sold to John D. Snyder and wife in May 1879 and they in turn sold the property, in December of the same year to John Forney, Michael R. Keiper, and E. W. Jury, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ, for the sum of \$300. This church building stood on the south side of the main east and west street. It has since been reconstructed and is at present used as a store.

After ten year's use of the former Methodist house, a lot approximately 50x190 feet in size located a short distance to the east of the former church and on the north side of Main Street, was purchased at a cost of \$500 for the erection of a new structure. Trustees making the purchase were: Michael R. Keiper, Lewis H. Zeigler, Isaiah T. Buffington, Charles W. Enders, and Aaron Shoop. The new, two-story frame building, costing \$12,000 was ready for use by the fall of 1889 and the annual session of the East German Conference, October 16-20 was held in it. Dedicatory services were held on the

Sabbath of the conference meeting. The following account of the event appears in the annual minutes:

"Early on Sunday morning the people of Elizabethville and surrounding country commenced to assemble in the newly-built, beautiful and commodious church of the United Brethren in Christ at Elizabethville, until every available space was taken, to hear our venerable bishop. At the appointed hour Bishop Weaver preached one of his inimitable sermons on the words, 'Simon, lovest thou me.' On Sunday evening, President C. J. Kephart, of Lebanon Valley College, preached an excellent sermon, after which Bishop Weaver dedicated the temple with appropriate ceremonies, the balance of the debt having been assumed by the trustees."

For a period of fifty-one years this building served the needs of the congregation without alterations. In 1940, however, it was so improved and enlarged as to give it the appearance of a new structure. The exterior walls were veneered with red brick. An addition of 25x52 feet with a new tower at the angle of the old and new construction, was built. This provided for Primary Department rooms, kitchen, and rest rooms. New windows and a new roof were constructed. The interior of the sanctuary was also completely renovated, new installments consisting of carpet, pews, lights and a pipe organ, were made. The Rev. H. S. Kiefer, pastor, led the congregation of 200 souls in this victorious enterprise which cost \$20,855.68. The church trustees, i.e., Charles F. Daniels, Carson C. Enders, George F. Buffington, Fred C. Keiffer, William A. Bauder, and two other laymen; Ray K. Buffington and John F. Wise, constituted the building committee.

Reopening services on Sunday, November 24, 1940, were in charge of pastor Kiefer, Dr. S. C. Enck was the guest preacher at the morning service and Dr. C. A. Lynch the guest preacher at the evening service. Local and other visiting ministers brought greetings at an afternoon service, and former pastors spoke at evening meetings during the week following. The final service of the reopening period was held on Sunday, December 1, with a sermon by Dr. H. E. Miller of Lebanon Salem Church.

Two dwellings, both located on East Main Street have been used as parsonages. The first bought in 1925 was sold the next year and the present manse located next to the church on its east was purchased for the sum of \$7,750.

Trinity Church has been attached to the following circuits: Williams Valley, 1873-74; Lykens Valley, 1874-93; and Lykens Valley, 1905-19. During the years when Elizabethville charge is listed as an appointment, the following ministers have served: J. M. Walters, 1893-94; S. B. Wengert, 1894-97; Ira E. Albert, 1897-98; H. E. Miller, 1899-1900; D. E. Long, 1900-1901; J. G. Smoker, 1901-02; J. G. Smoker, James Shoop, A. E. Shroyer, 1902-03; P. A. Bowman, 1903-05; P. M. Holdeman, 1919-22; S. T. Dundore, 1922-25; Ira A. Funk, 1925-30; J. M. Walters, 1930-37; J. O. Jones, 1937-38; and H. S. Kiefer, 1938-46.

Michael R. Keiper, whose name appears among the trustees of Trinity Church, and wife Sarah Sheesley, were the parents of the Rev. John A. Keiper, and of Mrs. Dr. H. E. Miller. John A. Keiper was converted at a campmeeting held at Bickel's Grove while kneeling between his father and mother. Soon thereafter he joined the Elizabethtown Church. He was graduated from Ursinus College and received a diploma of graduation from Ursinus Theological Seminary in the year 1884. He received quarterly conference license in 1885, annual license in 1888, and was ordained in 1891. In the annual conference organization he served on a number of important committees, and represented the East German conference as a delegate to the General Conference of the year 1901 held at Frederick, Maryland. Having given nearly forty-six years to the active ministry, he passed from this life April 19, 1933.

Enders, Salem Church

About a mile North of the town of Halifax, Armstrong Creek empties into the Susquehanna River. Its upper branches drain the hilly farming country of Jackson Township, in which three United Brethren Churches are located: Fisherville, St. Paul's and Salem. The oldest of these churches is located in a village variously known as Jacksonville or Enders. The latter name is after a well-known and numerous family of that community. The progenitor of the family, Philip Enders, was born in the Province of Nassau, Germany, July 22, 1740. A grandson, George Enders, laid out the village of Jacksonville in the year 1825, on a part of a large tract of land which was in the possession of the above named Philip.

At a quarterly conference held by Casper Light, presiding elder of the district, October 21, 1844, at the Zion's or Stone Church, "It was resolved that a church house be built in the neighborhood of John and George Enders, Armstrong Valley, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, whereupon George Enders, John Bowman, and Philip Enders were elected trustees." This information was taken from an old record in custody of the present pastor. Following the above resolution is a list of the subscribers with amounts subscribed for the project. Records fail to show when the church building was completed.

The first building served the congregation until the year 1873 when a new building replaced the old. The trustees at the time of erection of the second building were: George Enders, president; George W. Enders, secretary; and Joseph Bowman, treasurer. Rev. W. Dickson Mower was pastor.

The Rev. George W. Enders, whose name appears as trustee served in other capacities in the local church—among these, as Sunday school superintendent for a period of twenty-five years. He was also an elder in the annual conference, having received quarterly license in 1878, annual license in 1881, and elders' orders in 1887. When the Rev. H. G. Clair resigned the pastorate of the circuit in the spring of the year 1893, the Rev. Enders with the Rev. George Shindler served until the close of the year.



**Enders, Salem
Church**

Those now in charge of the property as trustees are: Victor Frantz, H. C. Kitzmiller, Edward Sheetz, Garland Hoover, and Harry Shoop. John Rettinger and Elmer Engle have recently filled the office of Sunday school superintendent.

In 1879 a circuit parsonage was erected in Enders. Pastors serving the circuit of which Salem's Church has been a part have continuously used it since then. The earliest parsonage for the former Halifax Circuit was located in Matamoras. A lot for that parsonage was bought March 31, 1860, by Henry Rouch, John Wolbert, and John Etter, trustees.

Salem Church was served by pastors appointed to the following circuits: Halifax, 1844-73; Jacksonville, 1873-1919; Enders, 1919-34; and Enders and Powell's Valley, 1934-46.

Fishburn's Church, Derry Township

The Fishburn's class erected its first house of worship in the year 1846. Prior to that time its members worshiped in homes and probably in the old Fishburn's schoolhouse which stood near the present church lot. Jonas Miller (1783-1864) whose name appears on deeds for both the Hershey and the Fishburn church lots lived in a large brick house located at the intersection of routes 322 and 340 immediately south of Hershey, said house was erected by Jonas Miller and wife Mary in the year 1812. It was the type of dwelling much

sought out as places for worship before our people began to erect "Meeting Houses".

Near the Fishburn's church stands another spacious farmhouse—this was erected of native limestone in the year 1790 by Philip Fishburn (1754-1851) and wife Mary, whose two sons, Benjamin and Peter had a large share in the promotion of the class and church bearing their family name. Benjamin Fishburn and wife Sophia Snively sold twenty-five square perches out of this farm, December 28, 1846 for the price of \$25 to Frederick Blessing, Charles Dasher, and Jonas Miller, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ. According to the language of the deed the church building had already been erected.



Fishburn's Church



Union Deposit Church

George Balsbaugh, Benjamin Fishburn, Peter Fishburn, and Samuel Longenecker succeeded the first trustees in the period from 1850 to 1866. These men also served in other official capacities in the local church. Samuel Duey, Charles Dasher, Henry Sanders, Adam Landis, J. Zoll, and Frank Balsbaugh also were active as local officers. Brothers Longenecker and Duey were at times also connected with the work of another class which had a parallel history with that of Fishburn's from 1853 to 1885. It was made up of persons who resided in the region several miles southwardly from Fishburn's Church. This class had a variety of names—Sand Hill, Keller's, Snively's, Longenecker's, Conewago, Hoffman's, and Shenk's. Those active in its work in addition to Longenecker and Duey were: John Ebersole, Henry Shenk, Peter Sheetz, John Hoffman, Isaac Hoffman, Noah Raub, and Elias Ebersole. The class was finally absorbed by the one at Fishburn's.

Some of the movement which resulted in the organization of a new denomination—the United Christian Church, sometimes styled

"The Hoffmanites"—centered in the Fishburn Church. The congregation, however, weathered the storm without being disrupted. Not only was the organization maintained but within less than twenty years had gained such strength that a larger building became necessary. The class built its second house of worship in the year 1886. Then after the passing of nearly another forty years, plans were made to erect the third edifice.

A brick structure well adapted for worship and Sunday school work was erected during the ministry of the Rev. J. R. MacDonald who had a ten-year pastorate with these people. Dr. A. S. Lehman officiated at cornerstone-laying ceremonies, June 28, 1925. The services of dedication were held April 25 to May 1, 1926, Bishop Wm. M. Bell preaching at the morning hour of worship, April 25, and performing dedicatory rites at the afternoon service. Dr. S. C. Enck preached in the evening. The Revs. S. G. Kauffman, O. G. Romig, Joseph Daugherty, G. W. Hallman, and A. G. Nye preached on the week-nights, and Revs. H. S. Kiefer, I. Moyer Hershey and C. A. Snively preached at Sabbath services May 1. The cost of the project \$22,906.89 was entirely paid by the close of the Reverend MacDonald's administration in the fall of 1927. The church membership at that time numbered 103 and the Sunday school enrollment was 162. The trustees who supervised the work were Albert B. Shenk, David Lerch, John O'Neal, Harry Brandt, and A. K. Winters.

The Fishburn's congregation bought a house and lot at 302 Elm Avenue, Hershey, on October 18, 1945, for use as a pastor's residence at a cost of \$12,000 of which amount \$5,000 has been paid during the conference year 1945-46. The Rev. Wm. G. Grosz family is the first pastor's family of this charge to enjoy the privilege of living in church-owned property. It is a very lovely home on one of Hershey's finest thoroughfares. The congregation appropriately observed the centennial anniversary of the erection of its first building on April 28, 1946. The following brethren constitute the board of trustees: Chester Burkholder, John K. Curry, Ira Shenk, Clinton Espenshade, David Lerch, Harry Winters, and Jackson Forrester.

Fishburn's Church gave from among its ranks four very successful ministers to East Pennsylvania Annual Conference, i.e. David S. Longenecker, Peter A. Balsbaugh, I. Moyer Hershey, and Charles A. Snively. Each of these brethren taught public school before taking up the profession of the ministry. Brief biographies of three of them follow, that of Doctor Hershey appears in another chapter.

David S. Longenecker, whose one brother, Samuel, was an active lay member of this church, and whose other brother, Isaac S., banker at Mt. Joy, and a familiar figure in the church there in his day, was the son of Abraham Longenecker and wife Anna Shenk of Conewago Township. East German Annual Conference granted him license in the year 1879. One year later he was appointed to Union Deposit Circuit, which charge he served three years. During the first year of his ministry he organized a class of members in the city

of Harrisburg and led the congregation in building its first house of worship known as Otterbein Church. The Reverend Longenecker was ordained an elder in 1881 and he continued in the active ministry until his death in 1917, having served eight appointments throughout his ministerial career. He was recording secretary of East German Conference from 1880 to 1898. The said conference elected him one of its ministerial delegates to the General Conference of the year 1901.

During a revival held at Fishburn's Church by the Rev. W. W. Fridinger, Peter H. Balsbaugh was converted and soon thereafter accepted the call to the Holy Ministry. His first appointment was Catawissa Circuit. He received annual license in 1903 and elder's orders in 1906. Following a five-year term on his first charge he subsequently served Sixth Street, Harrisburg eight years, and Columbia Salome, four years. Near the close of his third year, at Schuylkill Haven, a sudden illness brought to an end his earthly labors at the age of fifty-four years, seven months and fifteen days.

Charles A. Snavely was converted in the Fishburn's Church at the age of nine years. By vote of this class he received quarterly conference license in 1902, was admitted to annual conference in 1903, and was ordained in 1910. He filled conference appointments over the years 1903-1944. It was under his leadership that Harrisburg Otterbein Church was relocated. Final payments were made on the new Sanctuary of St. Mark's Church, Mt. Joy, and on the Sunday school building of St. John's Church, Paradise, while he was pastor of these charges. While serving the latter charge, after a year of physical suffering, he died July 31, 1944 on his sixty-fifth birthday.

Ministers appointed to the following circuits for the years indicated were the pastors at Fishburn's: Dauphin, 1846-53; Hummels-town, 1853-67; Highspire, 1867-69; Union Deposit, 1869-75; Swatara, 1875-79; Conewago, 1879-80; Union Deposit, 1880-83; Swatara, 1883-85; Fishburn's, 1885-1901; Derry Church (Hershey), 1901-04; and Union Deposit, 1904-46.

Fisherville, Grace Church

Grace United Brethren Church in the village of Fisherville was first the property of the Methodist denomination which erected it in the year 1859. It was sold by the trustees of the M. E. Church to the United Evangelicals in 1891, who in turn sold it to the United Brethren by deed dated, June 3, 1903 for the sum of \$275. The quarterly conference elected for its first trustee board: Aaron File, Jacob Gipple, George Shoop, James Motter, Valentine Harper, Daniel Shoop, and George W. Enders.

The information concerning the founding of a class is somewhat indefinite. A recommendation was made by the boundary committee at the conference session of 1880, "That an appointment be taken up at Fisherville and added to Halifax Mission." Whether this action was carried out, conference records do not show. There

probably was a class in the village before the purchase of the building.

Persons who in these later years directed the Sunday school are Theodore Biever, Mrs. Lottie Heckert, and Ira Heckert. The trustee board consists of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Lyter, Amos Hetrich, Mrs. Harry Gouder, and Mrs. Ira Miller.

The class was attached to the Halifax Church and remained with it until 1919. From 1919 to 1934, it was with the Enders Circuit, and from 1934 to the present with the Enders-Powell's Valley Circuit.

Forney's Emanuel Church, Upper Paxton Township

About midway between Millersburg and Elizabethville near the Wiconisco Creek stands a white frame church known as Rife's or Forney's. John Forney and wife Susanna in the year 1858 sold one-fourth acre of ground to Jacob Emerich, John Lenker, and Jonas Jury, trustees of the "Society of the United Brethren in Christ," for the consideration of \$20. A church building was erected on this plot in the same year. Soon after organization of the class, John Forney replaced Emerich as trustee, and Samuel E. Gilbert was added to the board.

A new church was erected in the year 1901, during the ministry of the Rev. M. H. Jones. While the building was in process of erection, services were held in Bonewitz's barn. The trustees who had charge of the church property at the time were: George Noll, Daniel Forney, Ulrich Lenker, Samuel Gilbert, and Robert Lenker. The house of worship was dedicated early in the fall of 1901. Most of its cost, which was \$2,400, was secured before dedication and the remainder on the day of dedication.

Extensive improvements were made to the structure in 1935. These consisted of metal ceiling, new carpet, repainting and re-decorating, and installation of electric lights. Pastor J. M. Walters was in charge of reopening services held June 9, 1935. Cost of these improvements was \$650, which amount was secured in cash with an overplus sufficient for a new heating plant.

Forney's Church has been attached to the following circuits: Lykens Valley, 1858-73; Williams Valley, 1873-74; Lykens Valley, 1874-1922; under Millersburg and Elizabethville quarterly conferences, 1922-23; Lykens Valley, 1923-26; under Millersburg and Elizabethville, 1926-29; Tremont, 1929-32; Enders, 1933-34; under Elizabethville, 1934-37; Williamstown, 1937-42; and Elizabethville, 1942-46.

Geyer's Church, Londonderry Township

As early as 1846 there was a class of members attached to High-spire Circuit known as Detweiler's. Its place of meeting was Detweiler's Schoolhouse—a stone structure standing about a mile and a half in a northwesterly direction from the village of Swatara Hill. David Detweiler, John Gingrich, Christian Gingrich, and Jacob Like

were its leaders and stewards. The Detweiler family lived on a farm about midway between the schoolhouse and the Swatara Creek. The Gingrich families lived southwest of "Swatara Hill" in the vicinity of Geyer's Church.

When the class erected a house of worship, the site selected was in the neighborhood of the Gingrich farms where the majority of the members of the class resided. The time when the church was built, and those who had part in it, is ascertained by an action of the quarterly conference, held December 23, 1848 for the Highspire Circuit at Neidig's Meetinghouse. Christian Gingrich, David Detweiler, and Jacob Like were by said action elected "Trustees for the meetinghouse which they are now building at John Gingrich's." In 1856 Christian Garber and Eli Ruth replaced brothers Gingrich and Detweiler on the trustee board.

The appointment was attached to Lancaster Circuit in the year 1861. A roll of members recorded in a church book of that circuit for the year 1861-62 consists of the following names: Christian and Catherine Garber and Christian Garber Jr.; Christian, Polly, Joseph, Leah and Sister Gingrich; Felix, Nancy and Anna Henry; Salinda Hoffman; Samuel, Margaret and Christian Kinsey; Barbara Like; Christian, Elizabeth, and Susanna Manning; David and Sarah Moore; Elizabeth McGarvey; Elizabeth McNeal; William, Elizabeth and Catherine Peters; May Reed; Eli, Catherine, Henry, Elizabeth, and Barbara Ruth; Jacob and Anna Shoemaker; Abraham Snyder, Anna Westhaver; and Elizabeth Zeller. Eli Ruth was class leader.

Jacob Geyer, one of the sons of the Rev. George Geyer of Mt. Joy Township, Lancaster County, settled on a farm near the church site. He sold a tract of 110 square perches to Samuel Kinsey, Abraham Geyer, and John M. Gingrich, "Trustees for the United Brethren in Christ worshiping in the said church, erected on the grounds hereby conveyed, known as Cemetery Church for the consideration of \$85.00." The deed of sale, dated April 1, 1869, like in many other instances, shows that title to the property was obtained after occupation of the ground. In this instance the matter was delayed twenty years. This deed adds one more name: i.e., Cemetery Church, to those by which the church has been known—its other names during the course of the years have been: Gingrich's, Geyer's and Hillsdale.

The church building which has served the congregation for nearly a century has been kept in good repair. In 1920 extensive repairs were made, costing \$2000. It was much improved in 1930 by laying a hardwood floor; constructing a metal ceiling; placing new pews, new lights, new window shades; and repainting. The cost was \$1,705.

Church trustees for the year 1945-46 are: Irvin Shope, John S. Alwine, William Krepps, Joseph B. Landis, Elmer E. Epler; and Eli M. Kinsey, member emeritus. Additional names on the Official Board Roll are: William Rider, Edwin F. Ebersole, Morris F. Eber-

sole, Claude E. Espenshade, Mrs. Russel Harold, Mrs. Hiram Brandt, Grace Zeager, Hazel Espenshade, Edith Harbold, and Edgar E. Calhoun. Samuel Kinsey and wife Margaret May Kinsey were staunch supporters of the work of the congregation. Eli M. Kinsey, a son of this couple, has had more than sixty years of service as class leader and Sunday school superintendent.

The church has been attached to the following Circuits: Highspire, 1846-58; Hummelstown, 1858-59; Highspire, 1859-61; Lancaster, 1861-63; Highspire, 1863-69; Union Deposit, 1869-75; Swatara, 1875-79; Conewago, 1879-82; Swatara, 1882-85; Fishburn's, 1885-1901; and Hillsdale, 1901-1946.



Geyer's Church



Grantville Church

Grantville, St. John's Church

"Mechanicsville," the former name for the town of Grantville, was also the name of the class organized there about the year 1848. The work had its beginning through the influences which went out from Shirk's Church, which lies one and one-half miles east of Grantville. Members of the Sherk family were instrumental in founding the new class at Mechanicsville. It was at a campmeeting held August 9, 1849 on the land of Michael Sherk that a trustee board was elected to build a meetinghouse. It was customary to hold the summer session of quarterly conference of circuits in connection with campmeeting services. So it happened in this case that the quarterly was "held at the house of Amos Sherk in Mechanicsville on the 3rd day of campmeeting."

The persons constituting this trustee board were: John Henry, John Walmer, and Henry B. Sherk; and as assistants, Michael Sherk and William Runkle. Michael Sherk donated a lot of fifty-seven and one-half square perches upon which a frame church was built in 1850. Successors of the first board up to the year 1880 were: John F. Stoner, George Bomgardner, George Eshenour, Daniel Kuntz, Moses Biely, Jacob S. Sherk, Benjamin Hess, and John Bomgardner. Laymen, other than trustees, who had official responsibilities during the same period were: Samuel Ellenberger, Amos Sherk, Joseph Klein, George Wolf, Jacob Wolf, Jacob Biely, Cornelius Grumbein, and George Runkle.

A second church building, also a frame structure, was erected in 1892-93, at a cost of \$7,700. The sanctuary room was forty by sixty-four feet, and the Sunday school room, thirty-three by thirty-six feet. Only a few years after its completion a severe storm twisted the structure. Though repaired to some extent at the time, it remained something of a menace to safety until 1921. It was then practically rebuilt and newly furnished at a cost of \$6,500. Reopening services were held, June 18, 1922, in charge of the pastor, Paul E. Fridinger; Dr. S. C. Enck, and the Rev. M. H. Jones, preaching morning and evening, respectively. John Cassel, president of the trustee board, supervised the work of reconstruction, his associates on said board being, John G. Bomgardner, M. B. Farling, Harry W. Hetrich, and Robert Hoover.

Among the men who have been superintendents of the Sunday school are the following: Cyrus Beily, D. Allen Boyer, John H. Kuntz, John W. Seaman, Cyrus Bomgardner, and George D. Miller. Officers of the Women's Missionary Society include the following: Mrs. Charles E. Parmer, Mrs. Oliver Miller, and Mrs. Allen Speck. A list of official personnel from 1880 forward, not previously mentioned includes: Reuben D. Wagner, Henry N. Hummer, Benjamin F. Shertzer, David Allen Boyer, Jacob M. Clemence, Ellsworth A. Lerch, Cyrus Clemence, Frank W. Blatt, Wesley B. Shertzer, William I. Hess, Francis Deaven, Mervin L. Etnoyer, Charles M. Miller, and Thomas J. Yorty.

The Grantville Church provided a parsonage for its minister by the purchase of a residence located at the eastern limits of the town on the south side of Grantville's main street. The purchase was made in 1938, and it was dedicated in the same year on April 10 by Dr. S. C. Enck. Its cost was \$4,500.

The ministers who served the Grantville Church are listed under the following circuits and charges: Dauphin, 1848-53; Hummelstown, 1853-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown, 1857-58; Hummelstown, 1858-66; Harrisburg, 1866-68; Union Deposit, 1868-69; Harrisburg, 1869-73; Grantville, 1873-89; Union Deposit, 1889-93; and Grantville, 1893-46.

Halifax, Otterbein Church

In the introductory paragraphs to this chapter we stated New-comer's activity in this area and the results of a campmeeting held near Halifax in 1843. A class was organized about the year 1840. Campmeetings in this area, as in others, continued to win converts who, when returning to their home localities, united with the nearest class. In 1867 such a meeting was held in George Baker's woods about three miles southeast of Halifax. As a result a new class of twelve members was organized whose place of worship was the Methodist Church of Halifax.

After the passing of two years, a trustee board consisting of George W. Etter, Jacob Knouff, and Joshua Ditty, was elected with instruction to purchase a lot and to erect a house of worship to be



Halifax Church



Jacob's Church

known as the Otterbein Church of the United Brethren in Christ. A lot—present church site—was purchased for the sum of \$210, and a frame church was erected thereon. There was much timber nearby and some of the lumber used in the structure was donated. Farmers brought stone from Peter's Mountain by wagons for the foundation. George W. Etter, builder, erected the building costing \$2,569.57. Cost of lot, painting, and furnishing increased the amount to \$4,018.94. The dedicatory service was to be held in the fall of 1869 but owing to inclement weather this service was postponed. The building was dedicated to the worship of the Triune God by Bishop Jonathan Weaver, February 27, 1870, the Rev. Amos F. Yeager, pastor of Halifax Circuit being in charge of the ceremonies.

A parsonage was erected at 233 Armstrong Street in the year 1901, C. Koppenheffer, C. R. Shope, and W. B. Nace, being trustees in charge. The house has been considerably improved in recent years. The church building has likewise been improved. An addition was constructed in 1911 costing \$2,000. A belfry was built in 1931. The church was enlarged in 1935 by adding space for three class rooms and a library; the entire building was redecorated; and a new heating plant was installed, at a total cost of five thousand dollars. Dr. S. C. Enck officiated at consecration services held July 14, 1935. In 1940 a new carpet, costing \$1,200 was laid, and the woodwork refinished. The Rev. C. A. Funk, pastor 1912-15, preached the sermon at the service of reopening, June 30. In 1932 a lot adjoining the church property was bought for the sum of \$300 for parking.

Ministers preaching in the area in which the class of Halifax was located were those who served Dauphin Circuit, 1840-43; and Halifax Circuit, 1843-72. Since the latter year, the following ministers served the Halifax Church: John W. Geiger, 1872-73; W. Dickson Mower, 1873-74; A. V. H. Gosweiler, 1874-75; E. L. Hughes, 1875-78; J. S. Riddle, 1878-79; W. Dickson Mower, 1879-81; E. P. Funk, David Strickler, 1881-82; H. H. Mower, Jeremiah VonNieda, 1882-83; Jeremiah VonNieda, 1883-84; G. W. Lightner, 1884-87; M. P. Sanders, 1887-89; Horace G. Clair, 1889-91; M. B. Spayd, 1891-93; Thomas Garland, 1893-95; G. F. Bierman, 1895-98; G. W. M. Rigor, I. M. Hershey, 1898-99; I. M. Hershey, 1899-1900; William Beach, 1900-01;

G. W. Shires, 1901-03; M. A. Salt, 1903-05; H. S. Kiefer, 1905-08; Clarence Mease, 1908-09; J. C. Pease 1909-12; C. A. Funk, 1912-15; C. E. Rettew, 1915-17; Ira D. Lowery, 1917-19; Ira W. Funk, 1919-21; S. G. Hass, 1921-25; H. C. Mathias, 1925-36; William H. Quaid, 1936-41; William H. Quaid, E. E. Saul, 1941-42; James Bingham, 1942-44; Ira W. Funk, 1944-46.

Harrisburg Churches, Introductory

Harrisburg, named after its founder, John Harris, was destined to become the capitol city of the great Keystone State and one of the strongholds of United Brethrenism. For a brief time, beginning with the year 1786, it was called Louisbourg. Inasmuch as the county of which this town became the county-seat was called Dauphin, after the Dauphin of France, Chief Justice Thomas McKean with other judges of the Supreme Court of the State conceived the idea that the town should be called Louisbourg after Louis XVI.

The community known as Harris' Ferry had a slow growth for some decades. By 1787 one hundred and forty-three names were included in the Louisbourg assessment list, showing a population of about six hundred persons. In 1791 the town was incorporated a Borough and named Harrisburg. The number of taxables had grown to two hundred and twenty and the census of 1791 listed 900 inhabitants.

The first church house in Harrisburg was a log building erected on the corner of Third Street and Cherry Alley through general subscriptions taken up in 1787. The name of Johannes Herse (John Hershey)⁵ appears among the subscribers as one of the most generous contributors. Though acknowledged to be the property of those who professed the doctrines of Ulrich Zwingli and Martin Luther, the original subscription papers recited that the edifice was "for the use of the subscribers," and for many years clergymen of different denominations worshiped in it. Among the trustees of the property was a man by the name of George Rettig. By the first record of an election held in 1790 by the Lutheran and Reformed parties, George Rettig is shown to be a trustee for the Lutherans. The second house of worship built was the Market Square Presbyterian Church. It was opened for worship in February 1808. William Glass was the builder.

The foregoing items are recited in order to show relative significance to the early work of the United Brethren within Harrisburg. The following information from Newcomer's Journal tells a partial story of the contacts and services of our pioneers in the city. In 1798 and 1799, respectively, Geeting and Newcomer together came to Harrisburg, and on each visit Geeting preached in the log church and Newcomer lodged with Brother Rettig; in 1800 Newcomer and Martin Boehm preached at John George Pfrimmer's house; in 1801 Geeting, Newcomer, and John Hershey preached in Harrisburg; in 1802 Boehm preached in Harrisburg; in 1808 Geeting and Newcomer

lodged at the home of Mr. Glass and Geeting preached; and in 1819 Newcomer preached in Harrisburg.

Under date of January 25, 1824, Newcomer writes as follows: "I visited a criminal in prison who is under sentence of death; I conversed and prayed with him: Oh Lord! grant unto this poor sinner genuine repentance." Concerning his return to prison next day, he states: "I returned to Harrisburg, visited the criminal again; he appears a little more affected; and requested me to visit him again." The last item from Newcomer relating to Harrisburg is dated February 10, 1829. It is: "Came through Harrisburg, visited Winebrenner⁶ and Riley⁷ and lodged with Jacob Rupp."

Among the recruits of pioneer missionary efforts in and about Harrisburg was Henry Herr. By some strange coincidence he became the owner of a large parcel of ground (eighty-one and one-half acres) which earlier was the property of the Rev. John Hershey. Henry Herr, born February 2, 1798, married Fannie Shopp, a member of the Shiremanstown Shopp family. The house which this couple built in 1843 stands on the corner of Verbeke and North Fourteenth streets, being numbered 1330 Verbeke Street.



The Henry Herr House

The annual conference session of the year 1832 was held at the Herr residence, which likely stood on the site of the newer house. Mr. Herr was a man of considerable wealth; was the holder of Bank Stock, Harrisburg Cotton Company Stock, and Harrisburg Bridge Company Stock; and was the owner of a number of lots and houses. Herr Street was named after him. He was a trustee for the first church held by the United Brethren in the city, was class leader and class steward at the Raysor's Church, and had other interests in

local church matters. Annual conference of the year 1842 elected him general Book Agent for the English press, a place he filled for a number of years following.⁸ The 1842 session also elected him treasurer of the Home Missionary Society of the original conference. Death closed his very useful career June 9, 1853. His widow lived until 1882. This couple with some of their kin are interred in the Harrisburg Cemetery which was laid out on Mr. Herr's farm. At the time of the father's death the family lived on the corner of North and High Streets.

The Second Street Church

The first church building owned by the United Brethren was just within the old borough limits on lot No. 318 as by the town plan. That part of said lot on which the church was erected fronted fifty-four and one-half feet on the east side of Second Street, extending from South Street to Barberry Alley, and having a depth of forty-five feet on said alley. This lot, with a brick church erected thereon in 1820, was purchased from the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, May 31, 1839, for the sum of \$1,200. A rather interesting incident connected with this building is given by Egle.⁹

A few years subsequent to the erection of this building some unknown person or persons entered it at night and with an auger, bored holes in the sills of the church. These they filled with powder, which they ignited by slow matches, and the explosion which resulted shattered the pulpit. The Governor of the State and the town Council each offered a reward of one hundred dollars, but the perpetrators of the deed were never discovered. The outrage excited such sympathy that by means of liberal donations of money which flowed in, the congregation was not only enabled to construct a new pulpit, but also to pay an onerous debt on the church edifice itself.

This act reflects an attitude of certain of the populace at the time, not only toward the Methodists, but also toward certain other Christian bodies, including the United Brethren.

When the church property was bought, Henry Herr, Frederick May, and James Gallagher were trustees for the United Brethren. Frederick May was ordained an elder in 1838. Upon division of the conference area in 1846, he retained membership in the West Pennsylvania Conference. James Gallagher was a member of the trustee board of the Methodist Church when the church lot was bought by them. He was ordained in the United Brethren Church in 1839, retaining that relationship for a period of four years.

The congregation had a short-lived existence—five years at the longest. From its beginning, it was attached to Dauphin Circuit. Annual conference made but two pastoral appointments to this charge. John L. Baker, a member of Allegheny Conference was appointed in 1842. An appropriation of \$100 was made in 1843 and Enoch Hoffman was appointed. Our records do not show what be-

came of the congregation; the property was sold by the sheriff, January 18, 1844 to Henry Herr for the sum of \$800. It was subsequently held by the Sons of Temperance, and still later was used as a Synagogue. The building now on the site—Nos. 321-325 North Second Street, is the property of certain public-minded citizens who purchased it for the use of the United Welfare organization.

The Front Street Church

Those persons interested in the advancement of the denomination and in the salvation of souls were not long without a church home. In 1850 David O'Farrel, who came to the conference from Virginia in 1844, was appointed to Harrisburg Mission to gather the scattered sheep in Harrisburg in a new venture. Shortly after the opening of the Reverend O'Farrel's second year, a trustee board consisting of William Putt Jr., George W. Shaeffer, and Jacob Shaffner, bought from Levi Wolfersberger on May 28, 1851, a lot with a church building thereon, for the sum of \$1,000. The lot—No. 52 in the town plan—was the second lot south of Locust Street fronting on Front Street. The church was built by the Baptists and dedicated by them, August 18, 1831. It was a brick structure forty by fifty feet, with a school room in the basement. The cost of lot and erection of building amounted to \$6,700. This property was in the hands of the sheriff when Mr. Wolfersberger bought it in 1850. So the United Brethren were not the only folk who were faced by church debt and the sheriff.

The Reverend O'Farrel remained pastor for a third year, at the end of which the membership numbered one hundred. Pastors following him were: Jacob S. Kessler, 1853-54; J. L. Homes, 1854-55; J. L. Holmes followed by Kessler, 1855-56; David Strickler, 1856-57; J. P. Bishop, supply 1857-58; and Israel Carpenter, 1858-59. The church had a struggling existence, now decreasing in membership and still remaining in debt. When Henry Herr in March 1853, shortly before his demise, made his last will and testament he ordered that:

In case the trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ of Harrisburg, i.e. Jacob Shaffner, William Putt, and Solomon Hiney or their successors should at any time previous to the first of April 1855 make it appear that all but one hundred dollars be paid on said church, then my executor is hereby directed to pay said amount of my estate to get said Church free of debt.

Annual conference came to its aid by making missionary appropriations and in appointing a financial agent to collect funds from outside sources for its support. The church was attached to High-spire Circuit in 1859 and to Dauphin Circuit in 1861. Jacob Snyder, Samuel Nissley, and Christian Shiffler were class officers when at the second quarterly held on the circuit June 8, 1861 it was reported that the work was so disorganized and so weakened that the church

house had been sold by the sheriff. This quarterly ordered that the appointment be dropped.

In spite of this situation the church fathers did not give up. In 1863 Pennsylvania Conference by consent of East Pennsylvania took over Harrisburg Mission and attached it to Shopp's Station. Daniel Eberly and T. A. Bushong were the ministers. In 1864 our conference made an appropriation of \$350 and appointed H. B. Winton. He, however, did not serve. Henry Schropp took over and at the close of the year reported a membership of thirty-one. In 1865 this appointment was made a supply but no pastoral assignment was made. It is not known where the members worshipped after their house was sold in 1861.

Thus the attempts to found a permanent work in Harrisburg ended in seeming failure. It was not long, however, until a renewed effort was made. With that the tide turned from failure to success. As the city grew the United Brethren Church grew with it, so that in the year of our Lord 1946 there are within the city limits and its suburbs nine strong churches with a combined membership of 5,290.

Harrisburg First Church

The annual conference was determined to establish, permanently, denominational work in the capitol city. The session of 1866 passed the following resolution:

Whereas, We regard the united co-operation of our membership in Harrisburg as altogether necessary to our success in establishing a society in said city; therefore,
Resolved, That it is the duty of this Conference to appoint an earnest, working man, to Harrisburg Mission Station, give him a liberal appropriation and instruct him to use his influence in connection with the P.E. of the Harrisburg District to secure a good central lot of ground and have erected thereon such a house of worship as the means will justify.

To make good its resolve, the conference appointed in that year, Wm. S. H. Keys, who had a very successful four-year pastorate on the New Holland Circuit, having come to us from the Allegheny Conference. It further supported the project by making a missionary appropriation of \$750. By the end of the first year the Rev. Keys had gathered a congregation of sixty-five members. His ministry in Harrisburg was well received, and the conference took note of it in stating:

In view of the fact that Rev. W. S. H. Keys has already secured a considerable amount of subscriptions towards the erection of a house of worship in the city of Harrisburg, Pa., and has furthermore obtained from leading men of the State and the nation, testimonials and recommendations, in regard to himself and his work in Harrisburg, of a highly commenda-

tory manner, thereby opening to him the way for obtaining donations from capitalists throughout the country, it was:

Resolved, That Brother Keys be continued Missionary Agent to collect funds during the year, for the erection of a house of worship in Harrisburg.

Though he was in that year appointed pastor to Columbia, he was at the same time continued in charge of the Harrisburg Mission. Ex-bishop Jacob Erb served the Mission two years, 1868-1870, virtually without salary, while he retained his residence at Shiremans-town. While its pastor, he purchased for the sum of \$1,400, a lot on Boas Street, where the present church is located. On October 20, 1869 he deeded it to the trustees of the church, who were: Leander Lehman, S. K. Deitrich, Henry Burn, Daniel Wise, and William Trummer. The Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, another capable leader served the church two years. During the first year he received two hundred and seven persons into church membership, bringing the total net membership to two hundred and fifty-five. He also reported a Sabbath School membership of one hundred and ninety-three pupils and twenty-eight teachers. During the four years of its existence the Mission had developed into one of the strongest churches in the conference.

The church trustees: Leander Lehman, J. X. Quigley, P. E. Deitrick, John W. Hoover, W. H. H. Gontz, A. J. Walmer and Samuel Lane, sent a memorial to the annual conference session of the year 1880, therein reviewing the work of the congregation, its strategic location in a rapidly growing railroad center; and made a plea for the conference and the denomination in general to come to their aid in providing, "... a better, more commodious and inviting house of worship." This memorial was placed into the hands of a committee for study. The committee reported approval of the project of erecting a memorial Church, such as would be a credit to the denomination; the appointing of and cooperating with a collector of funds; and recommended the enterprise to churches of the conference and the state.

Execution of the project succeeded admirably. The new "Memorial Church" was completed in time to entertain the first joint session of the Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania Conferences, February 22, 1882. The Rev. Ezekial Light, presiding elder of the district paid tribute in glowing terms for the work accomplished, in the following words:

Harrisburg Memorial unquestionably bears off the palm in church enterprise. It challenges our admiration in the successful completion of its new and beautiful church. Its financial ability considered, I venture to say that for liberality, energy and thorough enlistment of all its members, from the oldest to the youngest, in the prosecution of the work now so grandly, symmetrically, beautifully and substantially complete before our eyes, this congregation is without a peer in all the churches of the United Brethren in Christ.



Harrisburg First Church

The Sabbath Day evening service of the conference session was set aside for a dedicatory service. Bishops John Dickson and John Jacob Glossbrenner conducted the service. The Rev. Isaiah Baltzell was pastor from the time when the project was launched, and until completed. His thorough and experienced leadership had much to do with its success. He reported to the session of conference a church membership of two hundred and eighty-one, and a Sabbath School enrollment of three hundred and forty-eight. Henry Burn was the lay representative to this conference.

During the pastorate of the Rev. S. D. Faust there were notable advances. A very convenient and commodious parsonage was bought, No. 258 Herr Street, at a cost of \$3,500 in the year 1889. The trustees who made the transaction were: Charles B. Rettew, DeWitt A. Fry and W. C. Deitrick. During the course of the next two years the interior of the church was thoroughly renovated and highly improved, and a steeple erected, at an approximate cost of \$4,500.

After another decade passed, the church was again redecorated. A new pipe organ was also installed. This was in 1901, Rev. A. A. Long being the pastor. During the term of the Rev. I. E. Runk, very extensive repairs were made costing \$9,500. During the Rev. G. W. Hallman's second pastorate the congregation observed the fiftieth anniversary of the erection of its second house of worship. Bishop G. D. Batdorf, a former pastor, preached at the opening service of the anniversary series. Renovations and improvements costing \$1,600 were made while the Rev. Thomas May was pastor. After the work was completed, reopening services were held December 10, 1939.

Harrisburg First Church had a number of capable lay leaders. Among them was C. B. Rettew, lay representative to annual conference for many years, who for a period printed the conference proceedings at his own expense. Walter Deitrich was for many years lay delegate to annual sessions. More recently, Charles L. Bitzer has represented the local church in that capacity. In the local congregation he is a member of the board of trustees and general Sunday School superintendent. He is a trustee of Lebanon Valley College, presently serving as its vice-president. Mrs. DeWitt A. Fry has been very active in local and conference missionary organizations over many years. Alonzo G. Lehman served as secretary of the Sunday School for sixty consecutive years. In 1936 a testimonial dinner was held in recognition of this long and faithful service. Mr. Harry E. Paisley, president of the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association was speaker for the occasion.

When the church was organized it was called Boas Street Church. In 1882 when the new church was erected it was named Memorial Church. By recommendation of the boundary committee in 1909, annual conference voted it the name, First Church.

This congregation opened a new mission in the year 1873. Adam K. Fahnestock and wife Elizabeth sold a plot of ground for the

nominal sum of one dollar to the trustees of Boas Street Church, who were: Leander Lehman, William M. Kline, J. MacAlvaine, Edward Stoever, and J. S. Mickle. The lot had a frontage on Herr Street of sixty feet, between Eleven and Eleven-and-a-half Streets, and extended about eighty feet in depth toward Boas Street. The deed of sale is dated June 28, 1873. A building was erected in the same year. It bore the name, Plymouth Chapel. Annual conference officially recognized the mission and left it to the pastoral and congregational care of its organizers. The Chapel was used for mission and Sunday School work until about the year 1890. Successors of the above trustees, in 1894 sold the property to the trustees of Asbury M. E. Church for the sum of \$750.

The list of ministers serving the church is as follows: Wm. S. H. Keys, 1866-68; Jacob Erb, 1868-1870; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1870-1872; Wm. B. Evers, 1872-1875; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1875-1876; J. W. Geiger, 1876-1877; J. W. Geiger followed by Lewis Peters, 1877-1878; Lewis Peters, 1879-1880; Isaiah Baltzell, 1880-1883; D. W. Proffitt, 1883-1886; H. C. Phillips, 1886-Feb. 1889; S. D. Faust, Feb. 1889-Feb. 1892; H. A. Schlichter, Feb. 1892-1893; J. P. Miller, 1893-1899; A. A. Long, 1899-1901; G. D. Batdorf, 1901-1906; I. E. Runk, 1906-1913; J. T. Spangler, 1913-1915; C. E. Boughter, 1915-1916; N. L. Linebaugh, 1916-1917; W. E. Daugherty, 1917-1921; Supplies, 1921-1922; G. W. Hallman, 1922-1925; I. M. Hershey, 1925-1926; C. E. Rettew, 1926-1929; G. W. Hallman, 1929-1934; J. O. Jones, 1934-1937; Thomas S. May, 1937-1944; and Daniel L. Shearer, 1944-1946.

Harrisburg Otterbein Church

East German Conference at its 1872 session ordered that a mission be opened in the city of Harrisburg, and appointed the Rev. Job Light. It was left open to be supplied at the 1873 session. In 1875, Harrisburg Mission was attached to Union Deposit Circuit. There are no records available to show what progress was made.

In the year 1879 the following group of forty members of the Boas Street Church formed the Otterbein congregation: William H. Arnold, Robert Bleyer, Sophia Bates, William Burkholder, Lydia Carst, Emory A. and Sue Fisher, Martha Eshleman, Augustus Fells, Cyrus A. and Mary Beard, John, Catherine, and Ellen Harper, Henry B., Mary, and Samuel S. Keim, Jennie B. Hinkle, Benjamin and Catherine Hoover, John Howard, Mary Huber, John McClure, Lewis B. and Elizabeth Raber, John and Margaretta Richardson, John Runkle, George S. and Annie L. Sellers, Gabriel, Sadie, Henry C., Margaret M., John M. and Mary C. Shaffner, Christian Shiffler, William and Maria Stager, and Benjamin Welcomer.

The Rev. D. S. Longenecker then minister of Union Deposit Circuit of the East German Conference, which extended to Harrisburg, was invited to preach for this group. He accepted the invitation and in May 1879 set up a church organization. A Sunday School of fifty-eight members was organized. Services were held and activities carried forward in the Zwingli German Reformed Church,

located on North Street and Church Alley, while they were without a house of worship of their own.

The trustees elected at the time of organization were: Emory A. Fisher, Henry C. Shaffner, Lewis B. Raber, Robert Bleyer, and George L. Sellers. They purchased a plot of ground fronting fifty-five feet on Reily Street, between Margaret Street and Kepner Alley, and extending along said alley to a depth of seventy-eight feet. Plans were formulated to erect a house of worship, forty by sixty-four feet, one story high. Excavation was begun in November 1879, and the completed structure costing \$4,430.70 was dedicated June 20, 1880. The Rev. Amos Graul, by appointment of the East German Conference began his pastorate several months previously.

At the end of his first year, the second of the church's history, pastor Graul reported having received 112 members into church fellowship, bringing the net total to 157, and having a Sunday School of 306 pupils and twenty teachers and officers. Before the conference year closed additional ground next to the original lot had been purchased for the sum of \$125.

The Rev. Graul was appointed to Otterbein Church for a second time at the spring session of East German Conference. The said session by resolution requested the Bishop to change the time of holding sessions from spring to fall. The Bishop complied with this request. Consequently East German Conference held two sessions in the year 1881, and Rev. Graul's second term ended October 5, 1881. Between the two sessions, the General Conference of the year 1881 met. It ordered that Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania Conferences unite. In Chapter I of this volume it is shown how that action was carried out. So far as Otterbein Church is concerned, East German conference did not appoint a minister to it in the fall of 1881 although it appears Graul served until February of 1882. Somehow in the shuffle of change of conference boundaries Otterbein Church was taken away from East German Conference. The said conference received a petition from Otterbein Church lodging a complaint against this action, but nothing could be done about it. From 1882 to 1885 the joint sessions of the two above named conferences made the ministerial appointments. General Conference of 1885 placed Otterbein Church to Pennsylvania Conference, with which it remained until 1901.

Work continued at Otterbein Church as auspiciously as it had begun. Plans adopted in 1883 to enlarge the building by adding fifteen feet to its length; and by adding a second story, as was the original intention, were carried out. The work as proposed was completed in 1885. In September 1889 plans were adopted to build a parsonage on the lot purchased in 1880. The house was attached to the church building.

An organ was installed during the Rev. Hutchinson's ministry. While the Rev. B. F. Daugherty was pastor the front of the structure was changed, the sanctuary was refrescoed and carpeted, and im-

provements were made to the parsonage, at a total cost of over two-thousand dollars. By the close of his pastorate the following organizations were functioning: Gleaner's Band, Women's Missionary Society, Ladies' Aid Society, Young People's Christian Union, and Christian Stewardship League.

In the revival of the winter of 1900, one hundred and twenty persons were converted. These series of meetings were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. C. A. Burner. It was thought that the nervous strain brought on by the revival was indirectly the cause of his death. During his successor's term, that of the Rev. E. S. Bowman, special missionary support was given to the work of the Rev. N. H. Huffman, pastor of the congregation at Coto Laurel, Puerto Rico. In 1903 steps were taken to open a new mission. The Sixth Street Church was the result of this endeavor.

In 1904, during Easter Week, the congregation celebrated its Silver Anniversary. In preparation for the proper churchly atmosphere of this event, extensive improvements and some alterations were made. The church was reopened for services, Sunday March 27, 1904, with Bishop E. B. Kephart as the guest speaker. Sixteen years passed and the sanctuary was again redecorated, and a pipe organ was installed, totalling an expenditure of \$5,680.66.

A long forward look toward relocating on a new site was taken in 1907, when ground was bought on the corner of Third and Maclay Streets. This ground was later sold but the matter of relocation remained a live issue. In anticipation of such a movement the residence at No. 220 Harris Street was bought to be used as a parsonage. Its cost was \$8,000. Dr. Enck dedicated the house March 2, 1924, with simple but impressive ceremonies.

The vision to erect a new house of worship began to take definite form by the purchase of property located on North Third Street, having a frontage of eighty-four feet, and extending in depth along Peffer Street 204 feet. This action was taken by unanimous approval at a congregational meeting held June 26, 1927. Ground-breaking services were held September 25, 1928, with the following of the clergy taking part: J. A. Lyter, D. E. Young, E. E. Saul, C. H. Hendrickson, and the pastor C. A. Snively; and A. S. Lehman who gave the principal address. Present also were three charter members and one who joined the church soon after organization: they were J. A. Runkle, Mary Shaffner, Mrs. Runkle, and J. Frank Shumberger; George W. Crumleigh, a veteran in local church work was in charge of the ceremonies. The cornerstone laying took place on March 25, 1928, Dr. S. C. Enck, officiating.

The property of the new site was in possession of Dr. J. H. Kreider. He accepted in exchange of properties, the Harris Street parsonage at a value of nine thousand dollars, and was paid the difference amounting to eighteen thousand dollars. The three story dwelling on the new property was put into use as a parsonage.

Plans called for the erection of the Sunday School unit only. It was however, so laid out and of such size and proportions that it



Harrisburg Otterbein Church

has served the congregation admirably for worship, education, and social purposes to the present. Its walls are of stone taken from the quarries at Perdix. Beautiful art windows, memorials to the living and the dead, enhance the beauty of its interior.

The lay members who carried the responsibility of its erection consisted of the trustee board members, John Runkle, George Crumleigh, Alfred Hoerner, Christian Houseman, J. Frank Slike, C. E. Shaftner, and Hartman Holly; and two additional brethren, John Brownawell and J. B. Fortenbaugh. The cost of the building and furnishings, which included an Estey Pipe Organ with chimes was \$155,000.

A series of dedicatory services began with the Sunday School session of January 27, 1929. Dr. W. R. Funk, publishing agent,

Dayton, Ohio, was the special guest speaker for the day. He dedicated the house to the worship of Almighty God at the evening service. Five former pastors preached on successive evenings of the week following. Dr. S. C. Enck brought the message on Sabbath morning of the second week, and pastors of our Harrisburg churches were the preachers for evening services of the second week.

The Rev. C. R. Beittel came to the congregation as its pastor in October 1928. The first assembly at the new building was held October 7, 1928, the second Sunday of Rev. Beittel's pastorate. In the brief time intervening between his coming and the dedication he worked enthusiastically to see that every thing was in readiness for that great and long looked-for event. He has now completed eighteen years of service to this church—years of effort to meet pressing financial problems, and of further spiritual increases and development of congregational life.

Numerous lay people whose lives and services have helped to make Otterbein Church what it is today have already been named. There are a host of others who through the years made vital contributions to the work. Those of recent years who have served through major local church offices are: Mrs. C. R. Beittel, Mrs. Verna Banks, Mrs. Elizabeth Dowhower, Mrs. Christian Houseman, Mrs. Roy Hartman, Mrs. Charles Miller, Mary Ward, Atelia Richwine, Florence Billow, Isabella Unger, Annie Colestock, Edith Houseman, Lile Fisher, Richard L. Smith, S. H. Machamer, Charles H. Bernhardt, John Vanhorn, Russell Hawel, and Amon Hitz. Dale R. Beittel, son of the pastor, and Clair M. Hitz have been granted quarterly conference license by recommendation of this congregation. William C. Swartz is lay delegate to annual conference.

The list of pastors of the congregation is as follows: D. S. Longenecker, 1879-80; Amos Graul, 1880-82; A. H. Rice, 1882-86; C. T. Stearn, 1886-89; J. R. Hutchinson, 1889-91; W. H. Washinger, 1891-94; B. F. Daugherty, 1894-97; C. A. Burtner, 1897-1900; E. S. Bowman, 1900-08; E. O. Burtner, 1908-09; M. L. Weekley, 1909-11; S. E. Rupp, 1911-23; C. A. Snavelly, 1923-28; and C. R. Beittel, 1928-46.

Harrisburg Derry Street Church

As that area of East Harrisburg, commonly known as Allison's Hill, developed, United Brethren families moved there. The first attempt to locate a church within this area was made in 1871. A new mission called "Thirteenth Street Mission" was ordered to be established by annual conference of that year. A plot of ground, fifty by one-hundred feet was sold to Henry Reist, Noah A. Walmer, Adam Miller, Abraham Bomgardner, and Robinson Hughes, trustees of the United Brethren in Christ Church in Harrisburg for the sum of \$800. The ground consisting of lots Nos. 75 and 76 was located on Regina Street between Fourteenth and Fifteenth Streets according to East Harrisburg Book Plan A-28; but as described in the deed,

the plot ran along the east side of Chayne Street and touched Regina Street only on its northwest corner.

The conference minutes of 1872 list this appointment as "Calvary Church." Hiram Neaffer served the church 1871-73, and at the end of his second year reports a membership of sixty-five. The ministers who followed Neaffer were: John R. Reitzel, 1873-74; W. Dickson Mower, 1874-76; and Israel Groff, 1876-77. From 1871 to 1877 annual conference put \$555 into this mission project. In 1877 the church was attached to Harrisburg Circuit; in 1878 to Boas Street Church; and from 1879 to 1882 to Harrisburg Circuit. It is not mentioned in boundary committee reports after 1882.

A second effort to provide a house of worship in this section of the city resulted in the founding of Derry Street Church. It was a joint effort on the part of annual conference leaders and certain laymen of the Penbrook Church. The presiding elder in his report to the annual session of 1889 recommended as follows:

That section of Harrisburg, commonly called Allison Hill should have immediate attention by the Conference. We must occupy it now or it will be too late. Every year we hesitate we will live to regret. The Conference, at this session, ought to provide for that ground at once; not by resolution only, but by the appointment of a good man and provision for his support—a man full of the spirit of self-sacrifice. With such a man, and such members as now live in that territory, success will be only a question of time.

The Conference Church Extension Society acted favorably to the recommendation and made an appropriation of three hundred dollars.

In the reports of the said Society and of the Boundary Committee, the new mission is called "Brookwood." The only connection of the past and the present relating to this name is Brookwood Street, which runs eastwardly, beginning at the Old Catholic Cemetery.

Though no pastor was appointed to the mission in 1889, nevertheless a class of about thirty members was formed, a Sunday School was organized, and a trustee board elected. The board consisted of B. H. Engle, David Whitmoyer, Joseph Hays, Dr. J. Warren Rupp, and W. H. Bolton. The organization meeting was held at the home of Joseph Hays, South Sixteenth and Hunter streets, May 2, 1889. The Rev. H. B. Dohner, presiding elder, presided, and the Rev. M. J. Mumma, pastor of East Harrisburg Circuit also was present. Mr. Engle, who was superintendent of the Sunday School at Penbrook, conducted a school in the afternoon in homes or on lawns of members of the Brookwood Class, friends from Penbrook occasionally meeting with them.

Annual Conference session of October 1889 attached Brookwood to East Harrisburg Circuit, M. J. Mumma continuing as pastor. At the first quarterly held, it was proposed that W. H. Washinger,

then a student at Lebanon Valley College—later a bishop of the denomination—be engaged as pastor for the mission. This action was accordingly carried out. Early in the conference year, at a meeting held at the residence of Isaac Sheetz, No. 31 South Thirteenth Street, a decision was reached to buy a plot of ground and to erect a chapel. On April 1, 1890, trustees: Daniel Runkle, B. H. Engle, Joseph Hayes, Isaac Sheetz, and David Whitmeyer, bought ground, costing \$2,000 fronting fifty-four feet on Derry Street and extending north on Fifteenth Street one-hundred feet. The cornerstone for the chapel was laid May 25, 1890, and the edifice, costing \$6,800 was dedicated October 5th of the same year by Dr. B. F. Booth of the General Mission Board.

The Rev. D. D. Lowery was appointed pastor at the conference session of 1890. The same session constituted the mission a charge, named it Derry Street Mission, and appropriated three-hundred dollars. During his ministry of three years the spiritual progress made is indicated by the addition of 215 new members and by an increase of Sunday School enrollment to 386 pupils and twenty-four officers and teachers. Material advances likewise continued. A three-story brick parsonage was erected in 1890 on a lot purchased from B. F. Engle, fronting thirty-four feet on Derry Street adjacent to the original property. Its erection was made possible largely through the generous gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Engle. An annex built at the east side, and a vestibule constructed at the southwest corner of the chapel, added greatly to its size and convenience. Reopening services were held, September 25, 1892.

Among the laymen who contributed to the achievements of the early years of the mission's history, in addition to those named as trustees, were: William Lessig, Charles Sheetz, Samuel Albright, Henry Arnold, John A. Major, Norman Manley, Amos C. Mumma, William Geise, Ira Nisley, J. A. Kefner, Joseph Rudy, M. M. Cassel, A. D. Coldran, William and Martin Beck, William Porr, B. Saltzman, E. Gensler, Adam Fleck, W. A. Lightner, George Gilbert, and Morris Strohm.

By 1905 a new and larger church house became a dire necessity. In that year the pastor reported to annual conference a church membership of 501 and a Sunday School enrollment of 671. The last services held in the chapel were those of April 29, 1906. The cornerstone for the present edifice was laid September 16, 1906. The new building was nearing completion when on the afternoon of May 21, 1907, it was partially destroyed by fire. The estimated loss was \$15,000. At a meeting of the congregation that evening it was resolved to go forward according to plans originally proposed. The first service was held in the Sunday School room October 13, 1907, and the new house of worship was dedicated July 12, 1908 by Bishop Job S. Mills. The cost of building and furnishings, including fire loss, amounted to \$91,399.12.

Three additional properties adjacent to ground previously held were secured, respectively, in 1904, 1911, and 1918. The dwelling

(No. 1508 Derry Street) was for a time used for Sunday School work. Later a chapel was erected to house the Primary Department. It was dedicated February 27, 1916. Improvements were made to the rear of the main structure in 1918. In 1922, \$7,000 were spent on improvements both to the exterior and interior. The sanctuary was reopened by special services, January 7, 1923, Dr. W. R. Funk, of Dayton, Ohio, being the guest preacher. The basement was completely renovated in 1935 by arranging an assembly room and nine compartments, providing for modern needs of the Junior Depart-



Harrisburg Derry Street Church

ment. The Sunday School rooms on the main and second floors, and the sanctuary room, were renovated; new furnishings were installed; and the pipe organ was rebuilt, in 1939, at a total cost of \$17,505.95.

These latter improvements were made in preparation for the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary. The special services began May 14, 1939, Bishop G. D. Batdorf being the speaker at the morning service, and Dr. S. C. Enck at the evening service. At evening services during the week following, the guest speakers were Rev.

William Webb, Jr. and Doctors J. E. Hartzler, Harry Ulrich, and H. E. Schaeffer. On Sunday May 21, Dr. Thomas B. Lyter, Dr. Joseph A. Lyter, and Dr. C. A. Lynch brought greetings and preached. Mr. Edward S. Nissley, one of the outstanding leaders of the congregation prepared an historical sketch containing detailed information on all phases of fifty years of congregational life and achievements.

The large annual Easter offering is one of the distinctive features of the Derry Street congregation. By this means, chiefly, property costs have been met. The offerings for the years 1903 to 1939 total \$187,305.77. The largest amount gathered in any single year (1921) was \$10,500. Total amount raised from all sources for all purposes for the fifty-year period was \$723,074.34. The church is at this writing free of debt.

The congregation has supported special projects beyond its own immediate needs. It had a share in establishing State Street Church and Twenty-Ninth Street Church. Proper statements concerning the part it played will be given under each. Regular and special appeals for support of the institutions and general needs of the denomination have been generously met. The following in order named, all serving in the West African Mission Field, received the support of the congregation: Miss Etta Odle, the Rev. Lloyd Bowman and wife, the Rev. Walter Schutz and wife.

A partial list of organizations, and lay people instrumental in the church's progress follow: Sunday School, B. H. Engle, Martin Beck, Lewis Zarker, I. W. Barner, O. P. Beckley, B. H. Mathias, H. L. Carl, J. E. Gipple, E. S. Nissley, Prof. P. B. Faust, and W. Earl Hauser; Christian Endeavor, Kate Fry, Laura Eshenour, Lizzie Kinter, B. H. Saltzman, Robert Diehl, Lillian Moyer, and Mrs. H. W. Zechman; Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. D. D. Lowery, Annie Hoverter, Mrs. J. A. Lyter, Mrs. J. K. Robinson, Mrs. S. S. Daugherty, Mrs. Ed. Landis, Mrs. E. S. Nissely, Mrs. R. L. Hartzell, Mrs. S. R. Davis, and Mrs. James D. Wygant; and Board of Trustees, Harry A. Sherk, E. C. Finkenbinder, J. E. Gipple, H. L. Carl, R. M. Filbert, C. S. Spangler, D. Austin Sherk, E. O. Zarker, Albert W. Case, and W. Earl Houser. Two men of this congregation represented East Pennsylvania Conference as lay delegates to General Conference: H. L. Carl to the sessions of 1921, 25, and 29, and J. E. Gipple to those of 1937 and 41.

The Rev. Joseph A. Lyter, eminently successful pastor at Derry Street for twenty-five years, began his pastorate in 1899. A fuller account of his work will appear in another chapter, but it should be stated here that much of the growth and achievement of this great church were under his ministry. During his administration, Ira D. Lowery, Harry E. Ulrich, and Thomas B. Lyter, son of the pastor, entered the gospel ministry. Under the Reverend Harry W. Zechman, present pastor, the congregation is going forward in ever-increasing strength and service.

The complete list of pastors is as follows: W. H. Washinger, 1889-

90; D. D. Lowery, 1890-93; C. W. Hutzler, 1893-99; J. A. Lyter, 1899-1924; A. S. Lehman, 1925-Dec. 1936; E. O. Burtner, Dec. 1936-Sept. 1937; and H. W. Zechman, 1937-46.

Harrisburg, Sixth Street Church

Having become firmly established in the heart of the city and in East Harrisburg, those interested in the expansion of the United Brethren Church next looked to West Harrisburg as a likely field for a new enterprise. The Conference Church Extension Society in its report to the 1892 annual session expressed itself as being favorable to purchase of a plot of ground on North Sixth Street that had recently been purchased by Messrs. Schleichter and Baldwin, and by them offered for a church site. At the next yearly session, the presiding elder, reported that the conference was in possession of a valuable plot of ground and suggested that a Sunday School be established soon and later a church organization. No immediate action issued from this suggestion.

The next step was taken by the officials of the Otterbein Church. A special meeting of the official board held in April 1903 considered the possibility of launching a new mission in the west end of Harrisburg. This interest bore fruit in 1906, when in May of that year Isaiah T. Enders, Edward S. Troup, Diller S. Sollenberger, W. Howard Wagner, Robert A. Enders, George L. Sellers, Amos Funk, and Alexander McAlicher, met at the home of Mr. McAlicher, 1925 Fifth Street, to consider organizing a Sunday School. At this meeting plans were formulated to hold the first session of the School July 1, 1906, and each man present gave five dollars as a nucleus to finance the project. In the intervening time two rooms on the second floor of the Susquehanna School, Fifth and Seneca streets were rented. In preparation for the opening session each of the above named planning committee worked zealously to provide the necessary equipment, and Mr. Funk was specifically charged with the responsibility of publicity.

Sixty-seven persons met on the Sunday appointed, "favored with some of the hottest July weather we ever had." Officers selected at this session were: Robert A. Enders, superintendent; Edward S. Troup, assistant superintendent; W. Howard Wagner, treasurer; Diller S. Sollenberger, chorister; Robert McNally, secretary, and Mrs. Naomi Reed, pianist. The school grew rapidly and three additional rooms were rented. The Rev. G. D. Batdorf, pastor of First Church, presided at the organization meeting.

Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder, met with this group of Sunday School leaders and pupils on February 11, 1907. A church organization was effected by electing as trustees: Robert A. Enders, president; Diller S. Sollenberger, vice president; W. Howard Wagner, secretary, and Isaiah T. Enders, treasurer; as church treasurer, Alexander McAlicher; and as class leader, Amos Funk. Dr. Lowery appointed the Rev. P. A. Bowman, a retired elder of the conference to take charge of the work. The new congregation consisted of forty

charter members, most of whom transferred from Otterbein Church. The Rev. Bowman at once began evangelistic services at which between twenty-five and thirty persons were converted. His report to annual conference, meeting October 2-7, shows that fifty-three members had been received by letter of transfer—including the charter members; thirty-one on profession of faith; that the Sunday School had an enrollment of 224 pupils and twenty officers and teachers; and that he had organized a Women's Missionary Society and a Senior and a Junior Christian Endeavor Society.



Harrisburg Sixth Street Church

In April 1907 the trustee board completed negotiations to purchase property fronting on Sixth Street 216 feet, and extending to a depth of 115 feet along Seneca Street. The Conference Church Extension Society made an appropriation of \$4,000; the church loaned \$4,000 and raised in cash \$640 to pay for the lot and to launch a building program. Ground was broken in October for the erection of a chapel. The cornerstone was laid December 15, 1907 by the Rev. Bowman, and the chapel was dedicated May 31, 1908 by Dr. Lowery. The building cost \$21,021.

The cornerstone of the present sanctuary was laid June 16, 1912, and the completed edifice costing \$28,000 was dedicated by Dr. C. J. Kephart, March 16, 1913. The Reverends R. R. Rhoads, I. H. Albright, N. L. Linebaugh, H. M. Miller, and D. D. Lowery preached at evening services during the week following. The spacious stone structure

fronts on North Sixth Street. The remaining mortgage of \$4,800 having been cancelled, appropriate ceremonies were held on Easter Day 1924.

A red brick parsonage, one of the finest in the conference, was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, on February 12, 1928. It stands at No. 2337 North Sixth Street on a lot next south of the church. Its cost was \$15,000. The building committee in charge consisted of C. G. Johnson, H. H. Baish, E. W. Shenk, G. M. Spangler, R. A. Enders, H. J. Shenk, W. Howard Wagner, and B. B. Drum. Other trustees at the time were H. S. Byers, L. G. Smith, J. A. Good, Harry Parthemore, S. K. Bell and M. G. Sollenberger. At the evening service on the day of parsonage dedication a new Midmer-Losh pipe organ was also dedicated. Messrs. J. A. Good, F. J. Goodyear, Jr., W. F. Strong; and pastor, the Rev. D. E. Young, participated. Mrs. Laura Kuhnle directed the choir, and Robert Drum presided at the organ.

The interior of the church building was redecorated throughout, and new lights and new carpet placed at a cost of \$4,000. Reopening services were held October 27, 1935, Dr. Enck preaching the sermon.

Dr. D. E. Young had just completed the sixteenth year of his pastorate at Sixth Street Church when elected to the office of conference superintendent in 1942. His last annual report showed a church membership of 798.

The congregation reminds its newer membership of the progress of earlier years by observing anniversary occasions. On the twenty-fifth occasion the following charter members were present: Robert A. Enders, Mr. and Mrs. W. Howard Wagner, Mrs. Cora Free, Mrs. Mary K. Schaeffer, Mrs. Norman Dunkle, Mrs. Cora McCurdy, Ross McAlicher, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Drum, Amos Funk, and Mrs. Anna Sellers. These together with those whose names before mentioned in this sketch have been among the many faithful souls who have carried forward the work at Sixth Street. Many have had a distinguished record. Among such are: Amos Funk, class leader from the time the class was organized; W. Howard Wagner, treasurer of the Sunday School for seventeen years, and builder of the chapel, the main church, and parsonage; Robert A. Enders, superintendent of the Sunday School, and church trustee for many years; and Prof. H. H. Baish, whose manifold duties as a churchman are recited in another place in this volume.

Other official personnel include Samuel T. Kissinger, John W. Sheaffer, John O. Love, Warren Schue, Lawrence Miller, Mrs. C. T. Erb, Earl E. Shenk, Arthur Bodmer, C. E. McCaslin, E. B. Dunkle, Mrs. C. E. Griffie, Mrs. William H. Barmot, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Sholter, Ross Derrick, E. B. Dunkle, Mrs. Florence Broomall, Mrs. Warren Zeigler, Mrs. C. Shadle, Mrs. Robert Clark, Dorothy Ream, Ethel Alvard, and Hazel Gallagher. Robert H. Sholter and Walter G. Bowers were recommended for quarterly conference license.

The ministerial appointments and terms of service follow: P. A.

Bowman, Feb. 1907 to Oct. 1907; P. H. Balsbaugh, 1907-15; Joseph Daugherty, 1915-18; J. Owen Jones, 1918-26; D. E. Young, 1926-42; and C. C. Hollingsworth, 1942-46.

Harrisburg State Street Church

Members of the United Brethren Church living in the vicinity of State and Eighteenth streets met in the summer of 1901 to consider the possibility of opening a new work in that area. They made known their intention to the officials of the Derry Street Church. Dr. J. A. Lyter, pastor of the said church, appointed Daniel Runkle, H. A. Sherk, and George Gilbert to make a survey of the field. The committee of three rented a vacant store room located on the southwest corner of State and Lynn Streets for Sunday School purposes. The first session of the School was held November 10, 1901. Sixty persons were present and William Beck was elected superintendent. Because of the rapid growth of the School a vacant room in the public school building was secured for additional accommodations.

During March 1902 evangelistic services, resulting in twenty-five conversions, were conducted by William Beck and H. H. Hoffer. Dr. Lyter organized a class of forty charter members April 13, 1902. Soon thereafter at a quarterly held at Derry Street, William Ulrich, H. H. Beck, David Laudermilch, H. A. Sherk, and J. E. Gipple, were elected a board of trustees—subsequently, C. B. Rettew and John E. Knupp were added to the board. This board purchased the ground on which the present church building is located—northeast corner of Eighteenth and State streets—for the sum of \$1,700.

Annual conference of 1902 recognized the new class and named the Rev. I. N. Seldomridge as its pastor. Architectural plans having been adopted, ground-breaking services for erection of a Sunday School Chapel were held April 30, 1903. At the cornerstone laying in July, Dr. S. D. Faust, Dayton, Ohio, preached the sermon. The chapel, costing \$12,000 including furnishings, was dedicated January 17, 1904 by Dr. W. R. Funk, publishing agent, Dayton, Ohio. Five years later, two galleries were constructed at an expenditure of \$1,750.

A lot next to the church on Eighteenth Street was bought April 1, 1910 and a brick parsonage was erected thereon. On May 10, the mortgage covering the remaining debt on the church was burned at appropriate ceremonies. From 1902 to 1910 the church received conference missionary appropriations. In 1910 it became self-supporting. Its church membership had reached 286 in number and its Sunday School enrollment was 658, with an average attendance for the year of 305. In 1913 the basement of the chapel was equipped for Sunday School work at a cost of \$15,000.

The chapel, even with its increased facilities, was no longer adequate to house the growing congregation. Consequently plans were formulated to build a sanctuary room. Ground breaking services for the proposed building of stone, 62 by 74 feet, were held August 1, 1922. Cornerstone-laying ceremonies were held October 15, Bishop

Wm. M. Bell being the main speaker. While unit number two of the church plant was under construction, extensive repairs were made to the original unit. The total cost of construction and furnishings amounted to \$110,000. Dr. W. R. Funk dedicated the new edifice January 6, 1924.

The congregation celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in 1927 with an elaborate program. The church membership had increased to 587 persons. During the twenty-five years of its history, 1,161 people had been received into church fellowship and \$183,000 had been raised for all purposes.



Harrisburg State Street Church

After the passing of fourteen years, since erection of the new church building, extensive renovations were made to it. The entire ceiling was covered with acusticon material, the large art windows and frames repaired; flood lights to illuminate same were installed; and the walls were redecorated. The cost—\$3,100—was provided for by the time of reopening services. The following presentations were made: a baptismal font by the William P. Edmondson family; an illuminated cross by Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Buck; and an altar kneeling pad by S. D. Unger and family. This work was in charge of a committee consisting of the pastor, Dr. A. K. Wier, S. D. Unger, William P. Edmondson, A. M. Buck, George Black, F. E. Stengle,

Harry Warner and C. E. Procasco. Special reopening services were held on two Sabbaths, September 18 and 25, 1938, when Bishop G. D. Batdorf, and Drs. S. C. Enck, H. F. Rhoad, and C. A. Lynch preached. During the week between the Sabbaths, the Revs. W. C. Blatt, C. E. Procasco, O. L. Mease, and E. A. G. Bossler brought messages at evening meetings.

In the early morning of January 3, 1942 a disastrous fire broke out in the Sunday School rooms. Fifteen fire companies were called out to fight the blaze which for a time threatened to consume both units of the building. Only the heroism and sacrifice of these guardians of property saved it from that fate. The insurable loss was \$17,335. The pastor and congregation set themselves immediately to the task of reconstruction and refurnishing. The amount expended was \$26,500. Reopening services were held June 28, 1942, Drs. Enck and Lynch were the speakers for the day. A net indebtedness of \$1,530 remained after the conclusion of the day's exercises.

Dr. A. K. Wier, pastor of this congregation, 1932-43, began his active ministry in 1899 with the St. John's congregation, Paradise, Lancaster County, and subsequently served eight churches of this conference until retirement in 1943. He brought many members into the Christian fold, and led the Hershey congregation in erecting a new house of worship. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1900, from Bonebrake Seminary in 1906, and had conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity by his Alma Mater in 1924. Since retirement he served St. Paul's Church, West Lebanon, from April 1944 to October 1945.

The congregation had just about recovered from its shock and loss when the angry, hungry flames of fire a second time burned out part of its house of worship. This happened on the morning of August 21, 1945. While that of the first visitation was thought to have been caused by defective wiring, the second was determined to have been the work of a pyromaniac. The damage this time was far greater as shown by the payment of \$60,819.48 on the part of the Insurance Company, and an additional assumed loss of \$7,449 on the part of the church.

Less courageous and faithful souls might have despaired because of such a catastrophe, but not the people of State Street Church. In spite of advanced costs of materials and labor, and difficulties in obtaining each, they tackled the job of reconstruction. They were not satisfied by merely reconditioning the house as of previous standards, but went far beyond that, in every phase of: structural appearance and strength, in worship appointments, and in facilities for present day procedure in Christian Education and social activities. The amount of money expended on the total project was \$111,897.62, not including cost of pews, (the work of installation not being completed at the time of closing this record).

The board of trustees: A. M. Euck, George W. Black, S. D. Unger, Faber E. Stengle, C. Harold Wherly, Leon W. Shultz, and Charles

Z. Lingle, were the committee charged with the responsibility of the supervision of reconstruction. The numerous memorials and gifts presented show the deep interest individuals and groups had in their house of worship. Dr. Cawley H. Stine came to the congregation as pastor in October 1943. He had the united support of his people in this, the second crisis hour of a sad experience. His firm determination and boundless energy were the necessary qualities of leadership to carry his people through the crisis to victory.

Five brethren who later were ordained elders in the conference received quarterly conference license by recommendation of this congregation, i.e., Clyde A. Lynch, Charles E. Procaso, William C. Blatt, William O. Rhoad, and Thomas Guinivan.

The Rev. Hiram F. Rhoad, D. D., Ph.D., was pastor of the State Street Church while the sanctuary was built. He has been an active pastor since 1900, serving on eight conference charges. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1903, and his Alma Mater honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1928. Dr. Rhoad has represented his annual conference at five sessions of the General Conference, 1929 to 1945 inclusive, and the uniting session of 1946. He serves on numerous committees and boards under the annual conference. For some years past he has annually delivered Bible lectures at the Lykens Valley Campmeeting.

The complete list of pastors and the years of service are: I. N. Seldomridge, 1902-12; U. S. G. Renn, Thomas Garland, 1912-13; E. A. G. Bossler, 1913-17; H. F. Rhoad, 1917-28; O. L. Mease, 1928-32; A. K. Wier, 1932-43; and C. H. Stine, 1943-46.

Harrisburg Twenty-Ninth Street Church

The founding of the Twenty-Ninth Street Church was definitely the project of the pastor and congregation of Derry Street Church. In the summer of 1921 Dr. Lyter submitted to the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society a proposition for launching a new church enterprise. The proposal included purchase of ground, erection of building, and providing financial support until the new work be self supporting. The plan was unanimously approved by said Society and referred to Dr. Lyter and his people to develop details.

Plans being completed, congregational approval was voted December 14, 1921. On March 3, 1922 a plot of ground fronting on Derry Street, and extending in depth of 100 feet between Twenty-Eight and Twenty-Ninth Streets was bought for the sum of \$8,000. The cornerstone for the proposed brick structure, forty by sixty feet, was laid August 26, 1923 by Dr. Lyter. Mr. H. A. Sherk was the builder. The Rev. Parke B. Kurtz was appointed pastor in October 1923. Under guidance of the mother church, he gave himself to contacting residents of the community in solicitation for a Church and Sunday School constituency. On March 3, 1924 a brick house—No. 3005 Derry Street—was bought for use as a parsonage at the cost of \$8,000. The house was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, March 2, 1924.

On February 10, 1924 Dr. J. A. Lyter had the satisfying experience of dedicating the house of worship he had in prospect three years before. On the Sunday following dedication a class of sixty-nine charter members was organized, and one week later a Sunday School of eighty-one. At the close of the conference year the church membership numbered 100 and the Sunday School enrollment stood at 204.

Responsibility of local control was gradually shifted to those who formed the new organization. The privilege to organize an official board was granted as of October 1, 1929 and of holding its own quarterly conference as of October 1, 1934. The Rev. Kurtz remained as pastor until the annual conference of 1929. The Rev. D. E. Long served the congregation 1929-32; and the Rev. J. R. MacDonald, 1932-37. In the fall of 1937, the Rev. G. Edgar Hertzler was appointed and he has continued to the present.



Harrisburg Twenty-ninth Street Church

In April 1940 a church renovation program, including the re-decorating of the interior and recarpeting of the sanctuary and the Young People's department rooms, was begun. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached the sermon at reopening services held June 29, 1940.

At a special ceremony conducted at the morning session of annual conference, September 19, 1943, with Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, the Revs. H. W. Zechman, C. Edgar Hertzler, Dr. E. O. Burtner, Messrs. C. E. Finkenbinder, J. E. Gipple, and George D. Benedum participating, there was formal transfer of Twenty-Ninth Street Church to the custody of annual conference. A statement of finances presented showed that the mother church had, at the time of dedication, an investment of \$50,550 in buildings and equipment.

The total cost of buildings plus interest on loans and maintenance charges amounting to \$95,607.24 was met by February 1946. Of this amount the mother church paid \$45,172.72. Twenty-Ninth Street Church gathered \$50,432.52 through annual offerings over the years 1924-46. February 10th and 17th were set aside to celebrate the twenty-second anniversary and mortgage-burning ceremonies. The Rev. H. W. Zechman, preached on the evening of the 10th; Bishop J. Balmer Showers and conference superintendent Dr. D. E. Young were the guest preachers on the 24th.

The Rev. G. Edgar Hertzler, pastor since 1937, was in charge of these services. During his ministry more than half of the funds for property costs were raised, and the church membership grew from 241 to 363.

This young and thriving congregation has given three spiritual sons to the Gospel ministry; Clarence E. Ulrich, Paul Rickabaugh, and Clyde Rickabaugh. The Rev. E. O. Burtner, D.D., holds membership here since retirement in 1935. He gave forty years of ordained service to the church, serving one charge beyond and nine charges within our conference. Wherever he has labored the people have been blessed by his example of godly living and his words of counsel and sound teaching. Albert N. Ulrich, father of the Rev. Clarence E. is a lay minister. He has served this church as its only class leader through its entire history.

The general superintendents of the Sunday School have been, John K. Class, Harold L. Beckley, Albert R. Peregoy, Guy R. Shoemaker, George S. Achorn. Miss B. Elizabeth Ulrich is the present incumbent. Mr. A. E. Hershey has been the church's financial secretary since its founding. J. E. Gipple and C. E. Finkenbinder of the fostering church, Robert J. Cole, George D. Benedum, and A. E. Hershey of the local church were trustees up to the time of transfer. Albert R. Peregoy, David E. Lutz, Albert N. Ulrich, Clarence B. Kline, and George S. Achorn together with brothers Cole, Benedum, and Hershey have served since the time of transfer.

In addition to laymen above named, the following names appear on the Official Directory for the year 1945-46; Paul Shank, Mr. and Mrs. Milton H. Neidlinger, Forest Ensinger, Charles Redstone, Miley T. Sheaffer Sr., Russel Stare, J. Calvin Smith, Mrs. Edwin Nye, Mrs. G. Edgar Hertzler, Mrs. Ruhl Fleagle, Mrs. John Baumgardner, Mrs. A. E. Hershey, Mrs. Theodore Schott, Mildred E.

Crouse, Jean Redstone, Diane Rudolph, Evelyn King, Elizabeth Cook, and Romaine Attick.

Christian Education and Missionary interests are effectively promoted through their several channeling organizations. The pastor's wife is recording secretary of the Conference Branch Women's Missionary Association.

Hershey First Church

The name "Hershey" has been carried to every civilized country on the globe through the distribution of products manufactured by the Hershey Chocolate Corporation of Hershey, Pennsylvania. In the earliest years of the congregation's history the name of their small red brick house of worship was known as "Spring Creek Meetinghouse." Then followed a period when it was "Derry Church," and finally in 1913 by authorization of annual conference, it was styled, "Hershey, First Church." In course of time it happened that a United Brethren Church adopted the name of the town made world-famous by the ingenuity and industry of one man—Mr. M. S. Hershey.

From 1799 to 1818, Christian Newcomer preached occasionally at the Landis and Huber homesteads on Spring Creek. Under date of May 24, 1799, he writes: "This morning at 8 o'clock I preached at Draksel's; rode to Spring Creek and preached to an attentive congregation at the house of a Mr. Landis, where I lodged for the night." John Landis (1753-1829), grandson of Felix Landis I was at one time owner of the land upon which the "Spring Creek Meetinghouse" was built. Felix Landis II came from the Isaac Long neighborhood at Landis Valley in Lancaster County and settled finally in Derry Township, Dauphin County. The heirs of John Landis on March 29, 1831 released on a tract of land to Henry Landis, who, in turn with his wife Elizabeth Longenecker Landis, transferred, June 23, 1854, twenty-eight square perches for the sum of \$17.50 to "John Hershey, Martin Nissley, and Jonas Miller, Trustees of the Congregation of United Brethren worshipping at their meetinghouse in said Derry Township at Spring Creek."

The above recital shows that the church lot adjoined this newer purchase, that a church building had been erected sometime prior to 1854, and that said building was the recognized property of the United Brethren. The small red brick church 30x40 feet, no doubt, had been erected by a predominantly Mennonite constituency.¹⁰ After the passing of a quarter of a century following Newcomer's last recorded visit, the Rev. Simon Noll, when Junior preacher of the Dauphin Circuit, held a meeting in this church which resulted in sixty conversions. From that year (1843) onward the permanency of the United Brethren work at the Spring Creek Meetinghouse was assured.

There are in existence authentic quarterly conference proceedings covering the years 1849-1866. These show that John Hershey, Martin L. Nissley, and Jonas Miller were trustees during the entire period

of this record. Brothers Nissley and Miller together with Thomas Elliott, Cornelius Kuhns, Emanuel Dillman, and Samuel Sherk were class leaders; and Henry Doutrich, Henry Weiser, John Weltmer, A. Landis, Henry Zentmyer, and John Longenecker were stewards, during the same period. Jonas Miller here mentioned is the same who also was trustee at Fishburn's.

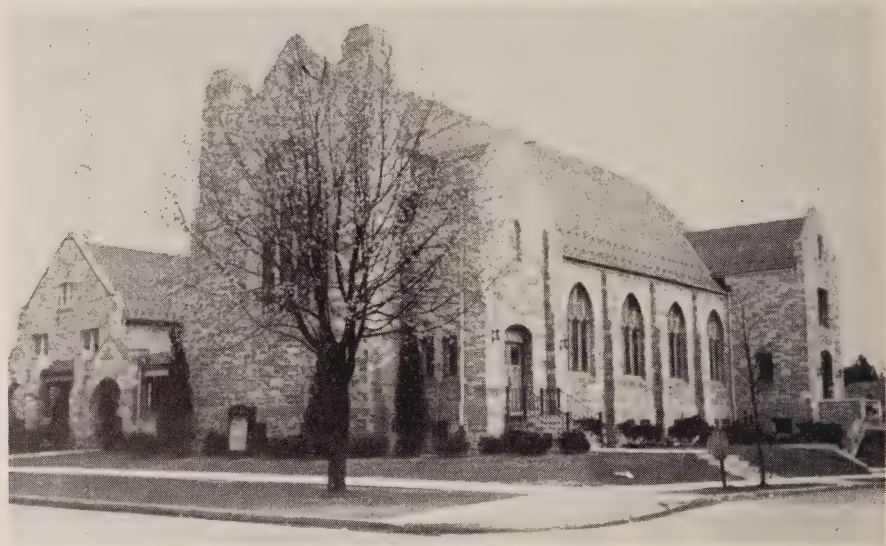
To the north of Hershey, beyond the ridge upon which the Hershey Hotel now stands, there was another United Brethren class. It met in the homes of its members. This class went by four different names, at least; Gordon's, Gravel Hill, Owl Hill, and Smith's. William Gordon, William Stroh, Christian Smith, Peter Gipe, William Howard, Henry Horst, J. Landis, and J. Stroh were its officers. The quarterly of October 7, 1865 took action relating to this class as follows: "Resolved that Gravel Hill Class and appointment be disorganized and the members be transferred to Springcreek."

The original church building was remodeled in 1880. At that time the question of legal title to the meeting-house property was raised. The issue was settled by action of the Dauphin County Court which ruled that the United Brethren were entitled to the property. An annex was added in 1912-13 at a cost of \$3,000 and the house of worship rededicated by the Rev. R. R. Rhoads on February 2, 1913. An eight-roomed frame parsonage was erected in 1904 on ground adjoining the church lot on the south.

So rapid was the industrial and residential growth of the town of Hershey that it might be called a "Miracle Town." From 1903, the time of the beginning of Mr. Hershey's projects, until 1913, the area along the Harrisburg-Reading Road (Chocolate Avenue) and southward showed much greater expansion than the area of old Derry. Due to the trend of this expansion and to the inadequacy of the church plant, the officials of the church decided to buy a site in the newer development. Having purchased some ground in 1911 and later believing it to be unsuitable, a final selection was made in 1920 of a plot in the southeast corner of Chocolate Avenue and Prince Street. By 1927, the ground costing \$7,500 had been paid, and \$26,000 was on hand for a new structure.

Ground-breaking services were held July 24, 1927. The cornerstone was laid April 8, 1928, by Dr. S. C. Enck assisted by the Reverends A. G. Nye and O. G. Romig. Due to the illness of the pastor, the Rev. A. K. Wier, Dr. R. R. Butterwick was in charge of the ceremonies. The present beautiful and imposing stone structure costing \$75,000 was dedicated by Bishop Wm. M. Bell, November 28, 1928. The bishop preached at the morning service on that day and conducted consecration rites at the afternoon service. Dr. S. C. Enck preached the evening sermon. Special services were held on evenings of the following week when former pastors: A. G. Nye, O. G. Romig, R. R. Butterwick, and pastors of other Hershey churches spoke. The concluding service of the dedicatory series was held Sunday December 2, with Dr. I. Moyer Hershey, also a former pastor, bringing the messages.

The committee in charge of the building enterprise was the trustee board which consisted of John R. Zoll, Harry J. Imboden, Raymond G. Hinkle, Edwin M. Hershey, John A. Balsbaugh, Harry S. Christ, and John H. Moyer. Dr. A. K. Wier, pastor of this congregation from 1926 to 1932, was ex-officio member of the committee. He gave wise and faithful leadership during this period of transition which has meant so much for the advancement of the Hershey Church.



Hershey First Church

Lay men and women who composed the official family, in addition to the trustees, at the time of dedication were Mrs. Raymond G. Hinkle, Mrs. A. F. Sholly, Miss Florence Walmer, Miss Mary Handshue, Miss Ida Bolan, Miss Esther Walmer, Miss Elizabeth Habecker, Miss Mabel Lingle, Miss Marie Mays, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe C. Stover, Cyrus L. Garman, Landis Garman, Earl Walmer, Jerome Krall, Harry W. Knoll, Frank Carpenter, Irwin L. Aungst, Mark Swartz, Roy E. Sternberger, David Sattazahn, D. Frank Garman, and Charles Copp.

A three manual Midmer-Losh organ was dedicated November 20, 1932. The cost of the organ was \$3,500 and cost of installation of the organ and of hearing aids was \$1,060. In 1935 a new parsonage and the basement floor of a new Christian Education building were constructed, and a new heating system was installed. These expenditures amounted to \$24,800. These projects were made possible because of the very generous gift of Mr. M. S. Hershey who at this time gave each of the Hershey Churches a gift of \$20,000. The new structures were dedicated September 15 by Dr. S. C. Enck. The

architectural plan of church and parsonage and their location in relation to each other is hard to be excelled. Considered from every standpoint, it is an ideal arrangement.

These later physical assets were added during the ministry of the Rev. Thomas J. Barnhart who began his pastorate in October 1932. The advantages of a fine physical plant and the great influx of new citizens created a situation favorable to spiritual progress. The pastor's zeal for the winning of souls, his ceaseless pastoral visitation, and his fidelity to the Word of God resulted in an increase in church membership from 362 to 696. A serious heart ailment made it necessary at times to ease up on his strenuous labors. Soon after leading his congregation in the observance of the centennial anniversary of the founding of the congregation, in the fall of 1943, he had to cease from active duty. His physical condition did not warrant reappointment in 1944. His very promising career came to an end through death, October 26, 1944.

The special anniversary exercises were held over the period, November 28 to December 5, 1943. Bishop G. D. Batdorf, Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, Dr. A. K. Wier, and Reverends N. L. Linebaugh and A. G. Nye were those of the clergy who shared in the services. Among the lay people who had come into official relation to the work since 1928, were: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence J. Speicher, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. John Habecker, Charles W. Brinser, Daniel E. Lewis, Mrs. William Runkle, Mrs. Edmund Madcliff, Mrs. Harold Black, and Miss E. Helena Allison.

The Rev. Thomas S. May who was appointed to Hershey Church in 1944 has received ninety-four new members during the two years of his pastorate with this church.

Ministers who served the Derry Church, later the Hershey Church, were those appointed to the following circuits: Dauphin, 1843-53; Hummelstown, 1853-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown, 1857-58; Hummelstown, 1858-67; Union Deposit, 1867-93; Grantville, 1893-1901; Derry Church, 1901-04. Since 1904 the ministers of this congregation have been: Z. A. Weidler, 1904-06; Esdras Ludwig, 1906-08; O. G. Romig, 1908-11; E. A. Sharp, 1911-12; N. L. Linebaugh, 1912-16; R. R. Butterwick, 1916-21; W. E. Daugherty, 1921-23; A. G. Nye, 1923-26; A. K. Wier, 1926-32; T. J. Barnhart, 1932-43; T. J. Barnhart, A. G. Nye, 1943-44; and T. S. May, 1944-46.

Highspire Church

The labors and influence of the Rev. John Neidig laid the foundation for two church organizations removed from each other by less than three miles, one at Oberlin and the other at Highspire. Though the congregation at Oberlin was the first to erect a church house, the formative period at Highspire was contemporary with that at Oberlin. John Neidig's farm of two hundred, thirty-seven and one-half acres was about a half mile from the present limits of Highspire, in a northwesterly direction. Abraham Neidig, father of John, came

from Cumru Township, Berks County in about the year 1770 and settled on a farm which he bought in 1774. After the son John came into possession of the homestead he opened the dwelling for public worship. Christian Newcomer's frequent visits to the Neidig residence are indicated in Chapter III. A "Great Meeting" was held on these premises in May, 1812, Christian Newcomer and Jacob Baulus, both of Maryland, being present. It may be that the first contacts of Newcomer and Neidig were through the kinships of the wife of Christian Newcomer who was Elizabeth Bear and the wife of John Neidig who was Mary Bear. From this home, like as from a central orb, there radiated the warm and life-bearing rays of the Gospel.

One of the choice spiritual sons of Neidig was Jacob Roop, a neighbor's son. It was through Jacob Roop, minister of the conference from 1820 to 1875, and that of his neighbors that a church building was erected in the year 1842. An abstract of the instrument, dated July 26, 1843, by which the congregation received title to a church lot and burial ground follows:

Jacob Roop of Lower Swatara Township, (Preacher of the Gospel), and Margaret his wife to Samuel Neidig, Jacob Nissley, and Conrad Alleman, trustees of the United Brethren in Christ of Highspire and vicinity, for consideration of \$46.00 . . . Those two certain lots within the farm of Jacob Roop . . . The first being a parallelogram, fronting 50 feet on Seneca Street or turnpike in Highspire, and extending in depth 67 feet, bounding on one side the said turnpike, and the said Roop's land on the other, and having thereon a brick building dedicated to the worship of Almighty God . . . The other part thereof is a perfect square, to be set aside for the sole purpose of a burial ground, fronting on the western side of the Poorhouse Road 80 feet, and extending a depth of 80 feet, with the said Roop's lands on the other sides.

The church site was the same as that of the present church; the burial ground, now much enlarged and used as a general cemetery, lies about one-half mile north of the church. Mr. Roop's farm of one hundred and twenty-one acres therefore extended from Highspire's main east and west street to, and beyond, the present Highspire cemetery, the Roop family residence and other farm buildings being about a city-block's length south of the cemetery. In this connection it may be said that the John Neidig and Jacob Roop families and other departed members of the Highspire congregation are buried there.

For some time prior to erection of the church, services were held in a little frame school building located near the present site of the Pennsylvania railway station. Highspire was then a village of thirty-eight freeholders. The church was dedicated in December of the year 1842. This attractive two-story brick structure "was at the time one of the finest and most complete church buildings in the denomination."



Highspire Church

A quarterly conference held at Highspire, February 5, 1848, for the circuit, consisting of Highspire, Oberlin, Balsbaugh's and Detweiler's, instructed the preacher, Daniel Funkhouser, to record the names of the members "From the time that the meeting house was built and from this forward such as are regular members." On this record are the following: John Q. Adams, Conrad and Elizabeth Alleman, Elizabeth Baker, Henry and Annie Blyer, Elizabeth Eber-sole, Fannie Diehl, George Garman, Christian and Mary Good, John and Nancy Good, Elizabeth Grunden, Levander Hatfield, John, Sarah and Catherine Hocker, Thomas and Peggy Hemperly, Susan

Lehman, Charlotte and Catharine Musser, Elizabeth McCroskey, Sarah Parson, John and Mary Parthemore, Samuel and Magdalene Poorman, John, Samuel, Elizabeth and Solomon Neidig, John and Bridget O'Brien, Abraham and Mary Reiter, Jacob Roop Jr., Jacob and Lydia Roop, Christian and Barbara Roop, Henry and Sarah Sanders, Elizabeth Stoner, Henry Wagner, Elizabeth White, Henry, Barbara and Valentine Zimmerman.

Trustees elected over the years 1843-56 were, Samuel Neidig, Jacob Nissley, Conrad Alleman, Jacob Roop Jr., Michael Frantz, John Hocker, and Henry Zimmerman; class leaders for the same period were, Jacob Nissley, Conrad Alleman, Henry Zimmerman, Samuel Neidig, Daniel Runkle, and Jacob Roop Sr.; and class stewards, Hilarius Bodmer, Jacob Roop Jr., John Hocker, Henry Blyer, Levander Hatfield, and Joseph Hains.

Extensive improvements and alterations were made to the church building during the summer of 1879. The work was completed at a cost of \$1,161.89. The building was reopened for divine services October 26 by Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner, assisted by ex-Bishop Erb and Prof. I. L. Kephart.

A new brick church having an auditorium 45x60 feet and a Sunday School room 35x50 feet, was erected in 1896. For this larger building two additional purchases of land were necessary. The Rev. J. R. Meredith, pastor, and all members of the official board constituted the Building Committee. The corner stone was laid July 11, and the completed building was dedicated December 6. Dr. C. J. Kephart, president of Lebanon Valley College officiated at both ceremonies. Cost of the new building, exclusive of value of time and materials donated amounted to, approximately, \$10,000. Improvements made in 1906 cost \$4,200. The cornerstone for a new Sunday School building 50x70 feet, was laid by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, July 18, 1926. It was consecrated by Bishop W. M. Bell at the morning service of June 12, 1927, and in the evening Dr. Enck dedicated the new two manual Moller pipe organ which had been recently installed. Total expenditures on the property amounted to \$68,000.

In 1880 J. Warren Ropp, M.D., formerly of Highspire, then of Harrisburg donated a lot on the southeast corner of Market and Canal Streets for a parsonage site. Solomon L. Swartz, Henry J. Roop, and Cornelius Shoop were trustees at the time. Brothers Swartz and Roop were the building committee at whose direction a nine-roomed brick house, costing \$2,700 was erected in 1882.

Sunday School work at Highspire began at an early date. While the congregation was yet worshipping in the old school house it participated in a union school, having Conrad Alleman as its first superintendent. A distinctively denominational school was conducted from the time of occupation of the first church building. In 1891 the school was graded. The complete list of superintendents is as follows: Conrad Alleman, John Q. Adams, John Hocker, Samuel Poorman, Jacob W. Roop, Cornelius Stewart, Henry J. Roop.

Michael Heicker, D. L. Kauffman, J. O. S. Poorman, R. V. Parthemore, Charles Yeager, Elwood Kaylor, and Paul Zeller.

The dates of organization of other departments of church life are: Women's Missionary Society, 1885; Gleaner's Band, 1886; Ladies' Aid Society, 1886; Sr. Christian Endeavor, 1890; Jr. Christian Endeavor, 1899; and Young Ladies' Mission Band, 1898. The board of trustees now consists of C. M. Leiter, R. V. Parthemore, Ira W. Hoover, J. O. S. Poorman, P. H. Mozer, Paul Zeller, C. W. Sauder, Charles Yeager, and Samuel Wetzel.

Ministerial members of annual conference since the time of "Father Roop," who were products of this congregation are: John Quincy Adams, Peter A. Bowman, Horace G. Clair, Hervin U. Roop, Raymond S. Heberlig, and Harry C. Mathias. Mrs. Mathias was granted a deaconess license. Henry J. Roop was one of a number of strong and aggressive laymen. He held many responsible positions in the local church and in the annual conference. The conference body elected him one of its lay delegates to General Conference sessions of the years, 1905, 1909, 1913, and 1917. He was born in 1845 and died in 1930.

The Rev. A. L. Shannon went to his eternal crowning while serving the congregation. Soon after his appointment for a third year, after a faithful evangelistic effort, he fell victim of the dreaded disease of pneumonia, which developed into typhoid fever, and terminated his promising career at the age of thirty-six years, seven months, and twenty-four days. He previously served charges at Pequea, Philadelphia, Ephrata, and Mountville.

John Neidig, Jacob Roop, and other ministers not necessarily appointed by annual conference, preached at Highspire during the early years. In exactly what year the class was first served by ministers so appointed cannot be determined. Highspire was within the bounds of the Lancaster Circuit until 1831; and within the bounds of Dauphin Circuit from 1831 to 1845. The Highspire Church was a part of Highspire Circuit, 1845-71; Highspire-Hummelstown Circuit, 1871-72; and Highspire Circuit, 1872-88. Since 1888 when Highspire Church alone constituted a charge the following ministers have served it: E. L. Hughes, 1888-Feb. 1889; J. Francis Smith, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; J. B. Funk, M. B. Spayd, 1889-90; M. B. Spayd, 1890-91; A. A. Long, 1891-93; J. R. Meredith, 1893-98; A. L. Shannon, 1898-1900; A. L. Shannon, S. F. Daugherty, 1900-01; S. F. Daugherty, 1901-03; A. E. Shroyer, 1903-09; H. F. Rhoad, 1909-17; M. H. Wert, 1917-20; M. V. Fridinger, 1920-25; S. L. Rhoads, 1925-29; James Bingham, E. E. Saul, 1929-30; W. E. Deibler, 1930-43; C. A. Funk, 1943-46.

Hummelstown Church

The beginning of United Brethren work in and about Hummelstown dates back to the time of the origin of the denomination. Christian Newcomer came to this community at least a dozen times over the period of years 1797 to 1824. John Adam Riegel, his wife,

and nine children came from the vicinity of Ephrata in the year 1807 and settled on a mill property at the Swatara, now the property of the Hummelstown Water Company.¹¹ The Riegel house was a center of influence as long as its master lived. Newcomer held a meeting in it by candle light on the evening of August 24, 1808 and lodged there for the night. On May 4th of the year following, Newcomer with other brethren, held a second meeting there.

Two Sacramental Meetings, October 10-11, 1801 and October 31-November 1, 1819 were held at Daniel Fleisher's in close proximity to Hummelstown. On September 3-5, 1824 a similar meeting was held at Henry Smith's on the Swatara. Of the meeting held on Sunday the 5th, Newcomer writes: "I spoke this forenoon from Matthew 15:22, 23; we had a blessed time, seventeen persons were baptized by immersion; many were enabled to rejoice and praise God."

The United Brethren jointly with the German Baptist Brethren and the River Brethren erected a small brick house of worship on the site of the present church in the year 1843, the United Brethren holding a one-fourth interest. Christian Landis Jr. and wife Elizabeth Hamaker sold the church lot to Christian Landis Sr., Christian Brubaker, and John Balsbaugh, trustees representing the several denominations mentioned before, for the sum of \$20.

In the year 1857 the Union Meeting House was replaced by a two-story brick church, built and used by the same three denominations. The German Baptists sold their one-fourth interest in the year 1869 to Samuel Walmer, Christian L. Hershey, and Reuben K. Henry, trustees for the United Brethren for the sum of \$225. The River Brethren continued in possession of their one-fourth share until July 26, 1886 when they sold it for the price of \$300 to George H. Grove, Jeremiah Balsbaugh and Christian Hershey, trustees for the United Brethren.

The trustees named in these three instruments were among the laymen active in the congregation's work and welfare. From 1849 to 1865, other brethren serving as trustees were Henry Hershey, John Wolhever, Conrad Smith, Christian Landis Jr., George Landis, Simon Fleisher, and D. S. Early. For the same period we find the names of these men together with those of Samuel Seltzer, Samuel Bear, Philip Sheetz, B. Thompson, Jeremiah P. Smith, S. Cronier, and J. Maring, on quarterly conference records, as representing the Hummelstown Church.

When a new circuit, including the area between Highspire on the south and Dauphin Circuit on the north, was created in 1853, it was named Hummelstown Circuit after the strongest class of the new circuit. It was a large circuit consisting of twelve appointments; Hummelstown, Hoernerstown, Union Deposit, Fishburn's, Sand Hill (Snaveley's), Runkle's, Owl Hill, Spring Creek (Derry), Shirk's, Grantville, Linglestown, and Brown's Schoolhouse. Hummelstown, except for one year (1866-67), had some churches attached to it to form a charge until 1883. The Rev. I. L. Kephart was its minister

THE CHURCHES OF DAUPHIN COUNTY

that year and at the close of the year he reported a membership of seventy-six, a Sunday School enrollment of fifty-one pupils and ten teachers.

The parsonage was built in 1877 during the pastorate of the Rev. C. S. Meily. In 1897 the church trustees, Jeremiah Balsbaugh, Christian Hershey, and Christian Balsbaugh, purchased what was known as "the Old School House Property," for the sum of \$350. This



Hummelstown Church

purchase made possible moving the parsonage to its present site thus providing space for a larger church building. Lay members of the official board 1898-99 were: Christian Balsbaugh, A. H. Reider, W. H. Ulrich, Bessie Landis, John H. Remsberg, Philip Alwein, Milton Hoerner, Mrs. George Grove, Jeremiah Balsbaugh, M. F. Nissley, Emma Landis, and Mrs. Jeremiah Balsbaugh.

Under the ministry of the Rev. A. A. Long sentiment for erection of a new edifice began to crystalize. Revival efforts from time to time issued in large increases in church membership. On Easter Sunday 1908 Dr. Long received eighty-two members. In 1910 a committee, consisting of W. H. Ulrich, George P. Hoffer, H. E. Schriver, B. H. Engle, H. M. Horst, W. A. Umberger, and Russel Stoner, was appointed to canvass the congregation for pledges to a building fund. The committee reported having received \$8,000 in cash and pledges; pledges to be paid by October 1, 1910. Pastor Long closed his ministry that fall, having been appointed to Altoona First Church. The Rev. A. S. Lehman came upon the scene as Dr. Long's successor. He gave himself whole-heartedly to his new field and launched the building enterprise.

The cornerstone was laid May 28, 1911, pastor Lehman, Dr. J. A. Lyter, and other ministers participated in the services. The months following witnessed the erection of the beautiful Church and Sunday School Building, designed after the English decorative style of architecture, built of local limestone and trimmed with Indiana limestone. The total cost of building and equipment was \$35,000. Dr. W. R. Funk of Dayton, Ohio, dedicated the house of worship February 25, 1912. A great concourse of lay people and many ministers gathered for the services of the day. Within six years all pledges were paid—the mortgage was burned at a special service held September 28, 1918. Dr. Lehman continued as pastor until the fall of 1925.

A pipe organ installed at a cost of \$4,364 was dedicated January 27, 1924. Other new installations, improvements, and construction of new rooms in the basement, over the years 1928-39, cost in excess of \$12,000. The Rev. D. LeRoy Fegley now in his twenty-first year at Hummelstown began publishing a church paper, *The Herald*, in 1930 as a quarterly publication, and since 1933, a monthly publication. A new organization known as the Young People's Prayer Meeting had its origin in 1932 under the direction of the pastor's wife. The group has maintained an average weekly attendance of forty young people who range in age from six to twenty years.

Organized missionary work by the women of the congregation began in 1877. Support of a living-link missionary was undertaken in 1916 when Dr. Zenora Griggs was supported by voluntary contributions. Mrs. J. Hal Smith was selected as a missionary representative in 1919, and so continued until 1932. More recently, Mrs. Nelle M. Engle has been receiving support in Home Mission projects and the Rev. Wm. B. Claye in foreign work. The girls have had a large share in missionary enterprises since 1891. Sunday School and

Christian Endeavor work is well organized and functions in an effective manner. The Dorcas Society has been of unusual assistance to parish work within its field since 1884.

Lay people serving in official capacities for the year 1945-46 are: David E. Shope, H. K. Miller, Ray A. Landis, Ray E. Gruber, William Holler, Clarence Stauffer, Harry Cooper, Harold Stopfel, Raymond Hoerner, Chester Shuey, Joseph Detweiler, Charles Hoffer, Frank LeVan, Ross Long, Earl Killinger, Ralph Keller, George Hoerner, John Hall, Ethel Stauffer, Margaret Schriver, Annie Burkholder, Alice Solada, Elizabeth Ream, Mrs. William Gohring, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Witmer, Mr. and Mrs. Ray A. Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Morris M. Engle, Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Hummel, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hebel, Mrs. Daniel Baker, Mrs. Walter Otto, Mrs. John Adams, and Mrs. Mary Burrell.

Members of the congregation who were voted recommendation for quarterly license are: Jeremiah P. Smith, J. Maring, J. Paul Hummel, and Robert J. Miller.

Ministers who served the Hummelstown congregation from 1843 to 1872 are listed under the following circuits as given at the beginning of this chapter: Dauphin Circuit, 1843-53; Hummelstown Circuit, 1853-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown Circuit, 1857-58; Hummelstown Circuit, 1858-66; Highspire Circuit, 1867-69; Hummelstown Circuit, 1869-71, Hummelstown-Highspire Circuit, 1871-72. During the above period there was one year, 1866-67, when Hummelstown Church alone constituted a charge, I. L. Kephart was the minister. Since 1872, the following have been appointed: John F. Smith, 1872-74, Jacob P. Smith, 1874-75; C. Seltzer Meily, 1875-78; G. A. Loose, 1878-79; G. A. Loose, E. Light, 1879-80; E. Light, 1880-81; Thomas Garland, 1881-83; J. D. Killian, 1883-87; Z. A. Weidler, 1887-Feb. 1889; P. A. Bowman, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; J. M. Shelly, Oct. 1889-1890; M. J. Mumma, 1890-93; L. R. Cramer, 1893-96; J. A. Lyter, 1896-99; E. O. Burtner, 1899-1906; A. A. Long, 1906-10; A. S. Lehman, 1910-25; G. W. Hallman, 1925-29; Joseph Daugherty, 1929-32; and D. LeRoy Fegley, 1932-46.

Jacob's Church, Wayne Township

About three miles eastward from Matamoras, the second United Brethren congregation in the Powell's Valley was established. A plot of ground, sixty feet front and one hundred and thirty-two feet deep, fronting on a connecting road of the two valley roads, was purchased from Hiram Lenker and John File on May 31, 1861, for the sum of ten dollars. George Sheesley, Peter Hoy, and Jacob Lebo were trustees at the time. A frame church building was erected in the year 1863.

The building has been improved from time to time. The presiding elder for the district at the conference session of the year 1874 reported a general remodeling. In 1931 an electric light system was installed. Joseph A. Chubb, a member of the congregation made a donation of the same at a cost of \$600. More recently additional

improvements were made, and a new piano bought, all at a cost of \$700.

The church has the largest membership of any on the eight-point circuit. At the close of the conference year 1942-43, the church membership was 107 and the Sunday School enrollment 148.

Before the church building was erected the class met in private homes and in the district school building which then stood next to the lot where the church now stands. Trustees now serving are: Harry H. Lebo, L. T. Lebo, William Sweigard Sr., and Frank Leitzel. Marlin Sweigard, William Sweigard Jr., and Frank Leitzel are among those who in recent years have served as superintendents of the Sunday School.

The church has been attached to the following circuits: Halifax, 1861-73; Jacksonville, 1873-1919; Powell's Valley, 1919-1934; and Enders and Powell's Valley, 1934-46.

Killinger's Church, Upper Paxtang Township

This church building stands north of the Millersburg-Berrysburg Road three miles out of the first mentioned town. It was erected by the Jacob's Congregation of the German Reformed Church in the year 1844. It bore the name Jacob's Church as late as the year 1919, but was changed to "Killinger's" to distinguish it from the Jacob's Church in Powell's Valley. Benjamin Riegle, William Wert, and William Lenker, trustees, were named grantees when the United Brethren bought the property in the year 1866.

At the beginning of the present century, Joseph Henninger, Jeremiah Lebo, Charles Shoop, William A. Wert, and Jonas Jury were its trustees. The last named was for many years the Sunday School superintendent; Roy Leitzel being the present incumbent. The trustee board of the present is Nevin Henninger, Mrs. John Matter, Charles Leitzel, Harry Chubb, and Roy Leitzel.

During the summer of 1937 considerable improvements were made to the building, and the grounds were beautified. The interior was redecorated and painted, new carpet was laid, and new light fixtures were installed. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached the sermon on the occasion of the reopening at the morning service, July 18, 1937; Dr. S. C. Enck preached in the afternoon; and Dr. C. A. Lynch preached in the evening. Former pastors participated in special services during the week following.

The Rev. Mark H. Wert was converted at Lykens Camp Meeting at the age of twelve and united with Jacob's Church. He was granted annual conference license in 1906 and was ordained to the Holy Ministry in 1910. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College and from Bonebrake Theological Seminary. He served very acceptably the following charges in East Pennsylvania Conference: Landingville Circuit, Shamokin Circuit, Intercourse Circuit, Pleasant Hill Circuit, Sunbury Church, Manheim Church, Highspire Church, Philadelphia First Church, Lebanon Trinity Church, and

Palmyra Second Church. After six days of suffering caused by an automobile accident, he died, November 25, 1942, at the age of fifty-eight years, eight months and twenty-four days.

From 1866 to 1904, this congregation formed a part of Lykens Valley Circuit. From 1904 to 1919, it was attached to Millersburg. Its connections since 1919 have been as follows: Lykens Valley Circuit, 1919-22; Under Millersburg Quarterly Conference, 1922-23; Lykens Valley Circuit, 1923-26; Under Millersburg, 1926-29; Tremont Circuit, 1929-32; and since 1932 served by pastors at Millersburg.

Linglestown Church

The United Brethren Church of Lingelstown stands a half block north of the town's Market Square. The first house of worship was erected in 1843. Peter Bonawitz and wife Barbara sold a small lot on the corner of Mountain Street and Blackberry Alley to the trustees, who were: Christian Reist, Frederick Shaffner, and Samuel Nissley. John Moyer, earlier owner of this lot, who came from the vicinity of Mt. Joy, Lancaster County, is reported to have been one of the founders of the church. Peter Bonawitz was a member of annual conference from 1841 to 1849. He died in 1852.

Other laymen of this congregation who held the office of church trustee over the years 1849-1877 were: John Shope, Thomas Runkle, Moses Sherk, Peter K. Levan, Henry Good, John B. Lenker, William H. Cassel, S. A. Miller, Simon Mower, Daniel Smith, and Christian Seibert. Among those laymen who served as class leaders and class stewards were: Samuel Nissley, Jonas Feaser, William Gross, Henry Sheppler, John Hoffnagle, William Fisher, John Shope, Joseph Klein, John Bright, Gideon Bomgardner, Cyrus Sherk, Rudolph Baker, Abraham Welpner, and Uriah Feaser. Simon S. Mower, Samuel T. Mower, and Zephaniah Mower were licensed by this class, and all were members of annual conference. Jacob Lingle and Joseph Bolton held local license.

There were three other classes, i.e.; Walter's, Levan's, and Good's, reporting to quarterly conference sessions. As was the case in many other congregations, more than one class existed at the same time, and such classes often took the name of the leader—when the leader was changed, the name of the class was changed. For the Walter's class, Isaac Walters, P. Smith, Michael Smith, and William Smeltzer were officials; for the Levan's class, Daniel Bolton, and George Look; those whose names appear under the Good's class are at one time or another mentioned as being of the Linglestown class.

The building erected in 1843 was a frame structure about thirty by forty feet in size. The securing of a bell was quite a problem for this congregation. The first effort to this end was made in 1866. Then in 1869 quarterly conference again took up this matter. It ordered that a bell be purchased and at the same meeting authorized repairs be made to the church building. Both orders were carried out in 1870. The east gable was extended, forming a porch-like



Linglestown Church
(New Church, Dedicated, December 18, 1949)

effect. Round pillars were placed at the corners of the new addition, the center was enclosed and upon this as a base the bell tower was built, and the bell, purchased by public subscription was placed therein. "It was pulled into place by Peter K. Levan's faithful horse 'Mike.'"¹² This building was renovated in 1881, and again in 1889.

In 1896 a new frame church was erected on the site of the old. The new church was destroyed by fire in 1903. The congregation immediately gave itself to the task of rebuilding. The work being completed, the house of worship was dedicated in the fall of the year 1904. Its cost was about \$2,500. During the pastorate of the Rev. Russel L. Shay a basement was excavated to provide rooms for Sunday School work and social purposes. The Rev. Dr. H. E. Miller dedicated the rooms April 25, 1937. Cost of improvements plus the installation of a new heating system was \$3,348. Further improvements were made and new equipment was purchased in 1939-40.

The Linglestown congregation fittingly celebrated its centennial in June, 1943. On the sabbath of the sixth day of the month, Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, preached the sermon. On the

following Sabbath, Dr. S. C. Enck preached at the morning service, and Dr. C. A. Lynch at an afternoon service. The Rev. C. E. Ulrich, pastor, was in charge. Lay leaders at the time of this anniversary, as shown by a roll of official members were: D. Luther Black, P. R. McNeal, Daniel F. Carl, Jonas L. Cassel, Halley Chubb, Dr. E. Victor Light, Yeatts Whitcomb, Mrs. P. R. McNeal, Mrs. Jonas Cassel, Miss Mary Hinkle, Emory E. Buchanan, Carlton L. Gardner, Mrs. John D. Cassel, Mrs. C. L. Gardner, Mrs. Laura Buchanan, Mrs. Charles Hunsicker, Miss Geraldine Brannon, Miss Betty Zaring, Walter C. Carl, H. Clayton Gosnell, Mrs. Elaine Zimmerman Moyer, and Miss Sara Buchanan. The Rev. F. B. Chubb holds a local license to preach.

Ministers who served the Linglestown Church are those appointed to the following circuits, of which the church has been a part: Dauphin, 1843-54; Hummelstown, 1854-55; Dauphin 1855-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown, 1857-58; Dauphin, 1858-64; Harrisburg, 1864-68; Union Deposit, 1868-69; Harrisburg, 1869-73; Linglestown, 1873-77; Grantville, 1877-82; Harrisburg, 1882-88; East Harrisburg, 1888-99; Harrisburg, 1899-1910. Since 1910, its ministers have been: Charles G. White, 1910-12; C. A. Lynch, 1912-18; L. D. Gottschall, 1918-19; L. D. Gottschall, R. S. Heberlig, 1919-20; R. S. Arndt, 1920-23; E. E. Saul, 1923-24; A. G. Nye, 1924-26; William O. Road, 1926-30; William J. Book, R. L. Shay, 1930-31; R. L. Shay, 1931-40; and C. E. Ulrich, 1940-46.

Lykens Otterbein Church

In 1864 the United Brethren of Lykens erected a house of worship which, with numerous improvements and enlargements has served the congregation eighty-two years. Through local-church and co-operative evangelistic efforts the work has gone forward in growth and effectiveness. During 1908 a tent meeting was held in the park at Lykens' west end, the Rev. David Livering being the evangelist. In 1914 the church shared in the Nicholson-Hemminger meetings held in a large wooden tabernacle erected in North Lykens for this specific purpose. On May 24, 1914 there stood before the church's altar 100 persons to be received to church membership. In 1927 churches of Lykens and Wiconisco united in a meeting held in the baseball park in West Wiconisco when the Rev. O. E. Williams and party conducted the services. The Rev. C. R. Longenecker, H. C. Hartranft, E. J. Pace, and G. E. Vinaroff, at different periods, headed special evangelistic efforts held in the church.

The frame building erected in 1864 was remodeled as a "Centenary" project in 1874, and then called "Bethel United Brethren Church." By official action the name was changed to "Otterbein United Brethren Church" in 1915. When erected, the building was a plain structure 30x50 feet. Its dimensions have been increased by an addition to the rear of 40x44 feet, and by erecting towers at the front. Interior arrangements have been changed several times, and the seating increased by erection of galleries. Remodeling, new con-

structions, and furnishings from 1892 to 1935 cost in excess of \$10,000.

The congregation observed its seventy-fifth anniversary in a series of services over the period, May 21 to 28, 1939. Prior to the celebration new furnishings costing \$1,714.72 were installed. A forty-five page souvenir booklet containing the program of exercises, and complete information of the church's progress and its organizations and personnel, was printed. Those among the clergy who had important assignments on the program were Bishops G. D. Batdorf and V. O. Weidler, and the Revs. D. LeRoy Fegley, Z. A. Weidler, E. O. Burtner, J. T. Spangler, S. L. Rhoads, and Paul E. Fridinger; and among the laity were, Mrs. Fred Thompson of Nelsonville, Ohio, a former local C. E. President; C. E. Travitz, C. E. Rettinger, William E. Boden, and Charles Horley, former Sunday School superintendents; and Park H. Fegley, present superintendent.

The Rev. C. E. Ulrich, pastor, 1935-40, gave excellent leadership in planning and carrying out the projects and program of the anniversary occasion. He set up a large organization which functioned effectively. The Rev. William H. Snyder, local member since 1884, has served the congregation faithfully in many official capacities. He was an ordained elder but ministered to only one charge by conference appointment. He submitted much of the material for the historical booklet.

A house for the pastor was purchased for the sum of \$2,500 in 1910. It was completely renovated in 1921, at a cost of \$5,414.90, and dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, November 6.

The first session of the Sunday School was held May 21, 1865 with an attendance of ten teachers and fifty-five pupils. The following have been general superintendents: David Rudisill, W. L. Bogar, F. M. Ely, Issac Lehman, Daniel Hawk, A. C. Lehman, William Daniels, C. E. Rettinger, W. C. Shoop, William H. Romberg, Charles Horley, Ed. O. Hoffman, C. E. Travitz, William E. Boden, and Park H. Fegley. Mrs. Celesta Coppenhaver has been in charge of the Cradle Roll Department since 1914. Miss Florence Fegley has directed the work of the Children's Division since 1931. Other organizations of the church had their origin as follows: Woman's Missionary Association, 1888; Young People's Christian Union, 1891; Junior C. E., 1900; Ladies Aid, 1904; Otterbein Guild, 1911; and Intermediate C. E. Society, 1917.

These departments of church work have enlisted a host of zealous workers. Of those who have given maximum years of service are the following: Jacob B. Lehman, Rev. William H. Snyder, Park H. Fegley, A. C. Lehman, William H. Romberger, F. M. Ely, Daniel Rettinger, C. E. Rettinger, O. C. Matter, Rosa Moyer, G. W. Heartter, Mrs. Mildred Woodside Fegley, Mrs. Mabel Dresel, Mrs. Julia Wehry, Mrs. Ben Feree, and Mrs. Jacob Clay. The trustee board is currently composed of H. G. Deibler, C. E. Travitz, William E. Boden, Forrest Cook, Roy Walter, R. A. Rowe, C. E. Sitlinger, and John Lupold.

Lykens church has an enviable record in the matter of those who entered special fields of service. James M. Leshner and wife went to the African Mission Field in 1883. William Lamey, William H. Snyder, W. C. Shoop, D. LeRoy Fegley, and Mrs. R. S. Heberlig having received quarterly conference license by vote of this class, later were ordained to eldership by annual conference. Frances M. Ely, John Renshaw, Russel Rhoads, Albert L. Sitlinger, Robert E. Dresel, and Fred L. Hartman were also voted their first license by this class; and Mildred I. Matter was licensed as a deaconess. Daughters of the congregation who married ministers are: Malinda Fegley, wife of the Rev. DeWitt P. Zuse; Mildred Woodside, wife of the Rev. D. LeRoy Fegley; and Helen Heartter, wife of Rev. T. J. Patterson.

The ministry of music has been a specialty of this church. It had its inception in 1874, by special group singing, when a church organ was first introduced. Other music groups and organizations followed, in order: German Choir, Male Quartette, Band, Orchestra, and Ladies' Quartette. Each of these groups received merited recognition for outstanding ability, and each gave time and talent not only to the local church but also to outside interests. The regular church choir, since 1914 has been under the direction of H. G. Deibler whose genial personality and capable leadership is deeply appreciated.

Lykens Church has been attached to the following circuits: Lykens, 1864-72; Valley View, 1872-73; Williams Valley, 1873-1884. In 1884, it was constituted a station, with Williamstown attached, and so remained until 1890 when Lykens by itself constituted a charge. Ministers serving the church since 1884 have been: J. H. VonNieda, 1884-87; S. S. Daugherty, 1887-90; L. W. Craumer, 1890-91; J. A. Keiper, 1891-93; M. H. Jones, 1893-94; Amos Graul, 1894-95; A. H. Souillard, 1895-1901; Z. A. Weidler, 1901-03; G. W. Shires, 1903-04; Thomas Garland, 1904-05; G. B. Renshaw, 1905-09; E. O. Burtner, 1909-10; H. S. Kiefer, 1910-15; J. T. Spangler, 1915-16; J. R. MacDonald, 1916-17; S. L. Rhoads, 1917-20; C. E. Boughter, 1920-22; C. E. Boughter, R. S. Heberlig, 1922-23; R. S. Heberlig, 1923-28; N. I. Fake, 1928-30; P. E. Fridinger, 1930-35; C. E. Ulrich, 1935-40; R. S. Heberlig, 1940-43; C. P. Waltz, 1943-44; and S. H. Stoner, 1944-46.

Manada Hill Church, West Hanover Township

Some years prior to the erection of the church building a union Sunday School was conducted in Kramer's Mill which stands south of the Harrisburg-Jonestown Road, near where the said road crosses the Manada Creek. A small group of those persons who were active in the promotion of the Sunday School were organized as a United Brethren class by the Rev. H. S. Kiefer in the year 1904. In 1905 the class was taken up as an appointment on Grantville Circuit.

In 1909 the decision was reached to build a house of worship. The site chosen was a triangular piece of land about a third of a mile west of the old mill, at a point where the Lingletown Road

branches off the Jonestown Road. On the north side of the First Mountain, in Fishing Creek Valley, stood a building known as Pleasant Grove Union Chapel which was held under the trusteeship of Wenrich's Reformed Church. This building was purchased, dismantled, and the materials brought to the proposed site. These materials together with some new lumber brought from Hummels-town were put into the structure of the Manada Hill Church. Certain of the members gave hours of strenuous labor to accomplish this task. The cost in money was approximately \$1,000. Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, dedicated the house to Divine worship, July 4, 1909.

The union Sunday School which had its beginning in the old mill met in the church building after its completion and continued as a union school until 1932, when it became a strictly United Brethren organization. It has an enrollment of ninety and an average attendance of forty-eight. Though the church membership has never been large, the evangelistic ministry has been fruitful. The present members number sixty-six.

Improvements were made to the building during 1931 and 1934. A basement was constructed and furnished for social purposes, a new furnace was installed, and a vestibule constructed, electric lights were placed, and the interior of the church redecorated.

Since 1906 the church has been affiliated with the following circuits: Union Circuit, 1906-10; Chamber Hill-Ebenezer charge, 1910-18; Linglestown Quarterly Conference, 1919-21; Linglestown-Colonial Park charge, 1928-31; Grantville, 1931-32; Linglestown, 1932-33; with Grantville, 1933-46. In 1918 it was a student charge served by E. M. Rhoad; and from 1921 to 1928 a supply charge, with the following ministers serving; C. L. Early, 1921-23; R. L. Shay, 1923-24; W. O. Rhoad, 1924-25; M. M. Lewis, 1925-26; F. B. Chubb, 1926-28.

Middletown Church

Middletown, so called from being located midway between Lancaster and Carlisle, is said to be the oldest town in Dauphin County. Christian Newcomer and other pioneers in the United Brethren movement came through the town over the old Paxton Road on their travels from John Neidig's to Lancaster. The first visit to Middletown by Newcomer was in the year 1800. Adam Geeting was his traveling companion. Of this visit, under date of October 7, he writes: "Today we preached at Middletown; brother Geeting preached from the words, 'Give account of thy stewardship, for thou canst no longer be steward.' We lodged for the night at Reider's." On the following day, services were continued, a great many people had collected. Newcomer and Joseph Hoffman had a meeting of some consequence on May 3, 1809. Having come to Middletown on the preceeding afternoon they lodged at night with Dr. Roemer. Of the events of the 3rd he writes:

This forenoon I preached here from I Chr. 9:10. Brother Hoffman preached in the afternoon; a vast multitude of people had collected, several persons were convicted of their lost situation, and cried for mercy; others were astonished and fled, as they supposed for safety. I lodged at the time of Joseph Hershey, near Middletown.

The influence of Newcomer's ministry as carried forward by John Neidig and Jacob Roop in time gave rise to a group of followers who resided in Middletown. The earliest of these groups of which we have knowledge formed a class which met at the house of John Shoop on the southwest corner of Spruce, (then Duck Street) and East Water Streets. This class was represented by John Shoop, class leader, at a quarterly conference held at the Highspire Church March 15, 1851.

Martin Nissley Sr., and Felix Nissley of Lower Swatara Township and John Gingrich of Londonderry Township were elected trustees by a quarterly held on the same circuit August 6, 1851, for a church to be erected in the Borough of Middletown. On December 19 of the same year they secured a small lot forty by forty-three feet fronting on Spruce Street from John and Anna Maria Shoop. A frame church building thirty by forty feet was built in 1852. Its cost was \$725. A membership of six persons was reported in that year. Felix Nissley was class leader and David Clauser, class steward. David Strickler was elected trustee in 1853. David Peters replaced Mr. Strickler the following year, when at the same quarterly John Roop was elected. In 1867 David Peters, Valentine Balsbaugh, and John Snyder were trustees. The Rev. Solomon L. Swartz, Joseph Weirich, Henry S. Roop, and David A. Detweiler constituted the trustee board in 1872.

The congregation worshipping in the little frame church grew and it became necessary to provide a larger building. In 1867 there was available a brick church building sixty by sixty feet in size, located on the northwest corner of Spruce and East Water Streets, which had been erected in the year 1838 by a group who had withdrawn from St. Peter's Lutheran Church. It had the name "Christ Church." Those who held this property in the year 1867 sold it to the United Brethren congregation for the sum of \$1,200. The building was thoroughly renovated and then was rededicated. The little frame church was subsequently sold to the Reformed Mennonites. An attitional strip of land, sixty by 130 feet was bought in 1872. This church was remodeled in 1883 on its interior and during the following year repairs were made to its exterior.

In 1892 the former "Christ Church" building was razed and a new two-story brick edifice, forty-five by seventy-five feet was erected on the site at a cost of \$14,000. It was equipped with a steam heating system and electric lighting and had stained-glass windows, parquet chairs, and a large tower with bell. This new structure was dedicated by Bishop Nicholas Castle, assisted by Dr. I. L. Kephart, and the pastor, John G. Smoker.

Extensive improvements were made to the church building in 1908 at a cost of \$2,298.50. Services of rededication were held April 26 by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, assisted by pastor U. S. G. Renn. Among those active in accomplishing this work were Charles Orth, the Rev. Joseph Weirich, C. A. Parthemore, Daniel B. Kieffer; and Mrs. Annie Nissley, a daughter of the Rev. Solomon L. Swartz, whose generous gift made the work possible. On May 17, 1914 a two manual Moller Pipe Organ was installed at a cost of \$2,500 of which amount the Carnegie Foundation contributed \$1,000. It was dedicated by Dr. G. D. Gossard, president of Lebanon Valley College. The next year the basement was renovated and a new heating system was installed at a cost of \$2,500. The Sunday School rooms were again remodeled in 1920. The Sanctuary was redecorated in 1926 at a cost of \$1,362.

The Middletown Church organized a Sunday School May 17, 1857. For the immediate past three decades the School has assumed and paid in full the conference benevolent assessments. The School was graded according to accepted standard and appropriate literature provided in 1908. The Women's Missionary Society was organized May 12, 1887, with the following elected as officers: Mrs. Z. C. Mower, Mrs. Lizzie Stauffer, Mrs. Jennie Detweiler, Mrs. Annie Fetrow, and Mrs. Martha Alexander. A Young People's Christian Union was organized in 1890. At present there are three societies of Christian Endeavor.

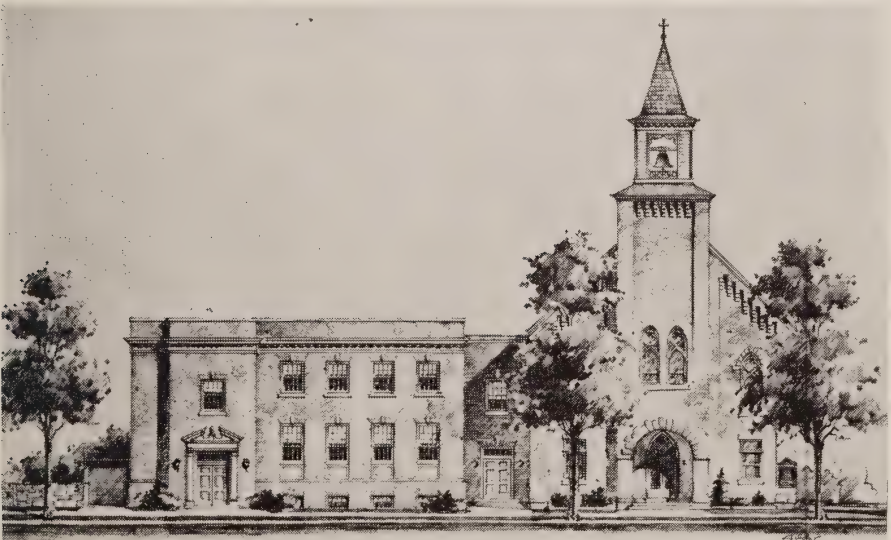
Their parsonage lot located at number 317 Spruce Street adjoins the church lots on the north. The house was erected in 1892 at a cost of \$1,292.19. It has been remodeled and repaired from time to time and meets standard requirements for present-day domestic needs.

Under the guidance of the Rev. Harvey K. Geyer, D.D., who has been pastor of this congregation since 1925, the youth of the Church and community have had the advantages of special religious instruction. A community Daily Vacation Bible School was opened in 1927. In 1933 with the cooperation of another church school, courses of instruction were offered at an hour not interfering with public school time. Since 1938 courses are conducted on pupils' released time from public school. A Kindergarten group under strict control of the local church meets regularly on Monday evenings. All of these efforts of Christian Education are well organized and carried on by competent teachers.

Dr. Geyer also has carried the responsibility of serving as Dean of the Leadership Training School, conducted by the Conference Board of Christian Education, as a part of the Summer Assembly program at Mt. Gretna, of which Board he has been vice president since 1933. While serving in this official capacity much of detailed supervision of the Summer Assembly has fallen to his lot. During his years of faithful ministerial service 608 members have been received upon Profession of Faith and ninety-three by Letter of

Transfer, and a church building fund approaching \$20,000 in amount has been gathered.

Laymen who represented the congregation at annual conference sessions during the past twenty-five years are: M. H. Bachman, George C. Bowman, D. B. Kieffer, A. R. Geyer, H. R. Detweiler, Christian S. Erb, Lester W. Martin, Ralph W. Stickell, and Charles B. Krall. George Laudermilch, David W. Gingrich, Christian S. Erb, Charles N. Jackson, Roy E. Howell, Ralph W. Stickell, and Dr. E. F. B. Shope constitute the trustee board. These brethren serving in the several other important official positions are worthy successors of those who began the work at Middletown, and of those who served officially during the last quarter of the past century. To this list of lay workers should be added the names of Mrs. A. R. Geyer, Mrs. Eva S. Gruber, Mrs. D. D. Treichler, Mrs. J. R. Brinser, Mrs. Grace Bauder Nagle, Miss Mary E. Geyer, H. R. Bauder, Miles Shoop, E. E. Robinson, and A. Lagoza, who have made valuable contributions in terms of personal service through a wide variety of organization channels. D. B. Kieffer had the distinction of heading the Sunday School for twenty-eight years. M. H. Bachman, after giving the earlier years of his life to the work of the Annville Church, in 1918 moved to Middletown and from that time forward proved to be a valuable asset to this congregation. It was he who urged that a fund for a new church building be started. He was elected delegate to General Conference for the sessions of 1929, 1933 and 1945.



Middletown Church
(Architect's Drawing of Remodeled Old Church
and New Church-School Unit)

Since his retirement in 1921, the Rev. E. A. G. Bossler has been located in Middletown and has given time and talent to the spiritual work of the parish by assisting in a number of ways, particularly as class leader. He is a former pastor of this congregation, and his other appointments were: Oberlin Charge, Lancaster Covenant, Steelton, and Harrisburg State Street Churches. The Reverend Bossler was first licensed in 1886, was granted annual conference license in 1888, and was ordained in 1890.

The Middletown Church was attached to the following Circuits: Highspire, 1851-71; Hummelstown, 1871-72; Highspire, 1872-74; from 1874 to 1878, Middletown Station; and Swatara Circuit, 1878-79. Ministers who served the Middletown Church from 1874 onward are: Henry C. Phillips, 1874-76; J. R. Reitzel, Israel Groff, 1876-77; A. P. Stauffer, S. L. Swartz, 1877-78; Amos Graul, 1878-79; J. M. Leshner, 1879-81; H. W. Zimmerman, 1881-82; J. G. Fritz, 1882-83; A. H. Kauffman, 1883-85; Theodore Wagner, 1885-86; Z. C. Mower, 1886-89; Thomas Garland, 1889-90; J. G. Smoker, 1890-96; Esdras Ludwig, 1896-1904; D. S. Eshelman, 1904-07; U. S. G. Renn, 1907-12; I. H. Albright, 1912-18; E. A. G. Bossler, 1918-21; C. A. Funk, 1921-25; and H. K. Geyer, 1925-46.

Millersburg Hebron Church

Daniel and John Miller, at whose homes Newcomer lodged when in Millersburg, had come from Lancaster County in the year 1790. Daniel Miller laid out his land in town lots in 1807. He taught school in a log cabin, "then considered quite a pretentious structure, large and strongly put together, and well provided with loop-holes—a kind of fort to which the settlers might fly for safety in case of attack from Indians." It may be that Christian Newcomer held service in this structure.

Although our denomination became active in upper Dauphin County at an early date, many years passed before it established a permanent work in Millersburg. The first effort was made in 1871. Conference leaders were hopeful that a congregation might be established. In 1871 and in 1872, Millersburg Station appears on boundary committee reports. In both years the appointment was left to be supplied but no appointments were made. In 1873 conference made an appropriation of \$200 and appointed the Rev. C. S. Meily. At the close of the year he reported a class of twenty-eight members. He was reappointed the following year and an appropriation of \$150 was made. In 1875 the class was attached to Halifax Circuit; in 1878, it and the surrounding country was recognized a charge and T. P. Orner was assigned to it; in 1879, the Rev. H. S. Rice served from June to October, and he reported nine members at the close of the year. In that year, the presiding elder reports: "That some steps had been taken towards building a church but the prospects are not very encouraging." From 1880 onward to 1896 efforts were continued but with little progress.

The Rev. D. E. Long, while pastor of Lykens Circuit gave some attention to opening a preaching appointment in Millersburg. He

held services in the Moore Street Evangelical Church, and there on April 17, 1904 organized a class of twenty members whose names are: Lizzie Bowers, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Forney, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hoy, Alice Koppenhaver, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lebo, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Lehman, Sevilla Schaeffer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Shatto, Nora Snyder, Etta Speece, John Travitz, Susan Weaver, W. E. Wert, Lizzie and Jennie Wert. By October forty additional members were received.

The progress and importance of the work prompted annual conference authorities to constitute Millersburg Mission Station with the Killinger's Church attached in the fall of 1904, and the Rev. Long was appointed. The trustees, S. E. Lehman, J. M. Chubb, J. D. Lebo, John L. Forney, and William Wert, purchased a piece of ground on the corner of North and Market Streets, then known as the Campbell property. In March 1905 the building of a house of worship was begun. By December the structure was completed and then dedicated by Bishop Job. S. Mills. Its cost was \$7,000. At the close of the conference year 1904-05, the Rev. Long reported a membership of ninety-three.

During the pastorate of the Rev. A. L. Haeseler, a double dwelling was built on North Street, close to the church property. It served as a pastor's house and as a home for the sexton. The parsonage was enlarged and remodeled during the building project of the year 1935.

In looking forward to a building-expansion program, a building fund was established during the pastorate of the Rev. O. L. Mease. His successor, the Rev. M. V. Fridinger, saw the total for this purpose reach \$33,000 by the time his term of service closed in the fall of 1933. Quarterly conference, in 1935, voted to launch a building program. Two lots, costing \$2,850, adjoining the church property were purchased. A building committee, consisting of the pastor, S. T. Dundore, Prof. E. B. Long, and the church trustees, John L. Forney, J. M. Novinger, J. W. Brightbill, Henry Shoop, Ed. H. Chubb, Homer A. Klinger, and C. A. Heimbaugh was appointed. Ground breaking services were held Easter Sunday, the cornerstone was laid July 14, and the completed building was dedicated by Bishop G. D. Batdorf, December 1, 1935.

The new building 40x95 feet, three stories high, with wings at each end 22x24 feet, is attached to the rear of the original chapel. This new structure is admirably adapted for a modern program of Christian Education. Each age group has its own worship assembly room and related sound-proof class rooms. The ground floor plan is well suited for social and dramatic purposes. Cost of remodeling the original sanctuary and the parsonage, and the new construction was slightly more than \$52,000.

Final payment of the indebtedness was made September 1, 1943. Special services marking this splendid achievement were held on the nineteenth of September. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, conducted mortgage-burning ceremonies and preached at the morning service, and Dr. O. L. Mease, under whose pastorate



Millersburg Church

the building fund had been established, preached in the evening. The Rev. S. T. Dundore who had previously served Elizabethville Church, 1922-25, and the Mountville Church, Lancaster County, 1925-33, came to Millersburg Church in the fall of 1933, and gave inspiring direction to the building enterprise. Since 1926 he has annually conducted Camp Fire services at the Mt. Gretna Summer Assembly, and since 1929 has been director of Young People's Work under the Conference Board of Christian Education.

Local preachers of the Millersburg Church were, S. K. Deibler and Henry Shoop. Edgar D. Wert was voted quarterly license. Prominent in the several official capacities over the years of the church's history have been: John Dressler, William Lebo, George E. Novinger, Emory Shoop, church trustees, not previously mentioned; S. K. Deibler and Aaron Kuntzleman, class leaders; S. E. Lehman, Julius Bair, Ed. H. Chubb, Charles Welker, John M. Novinger, Charles Hoffman, and William Hoy, general Sunday School superintendents; E. B. Long, Mrs. Basil March, and Mrs. E. B. Long, departmental superintendents; Mrs. Edwin Long, Mrs. Calvin Erb, Mrs. Earl Brightbill, and Mrs. John Dressler, presidents of the Women's Missionary Association; and Mrs. Aaron Kuntzleman and Mrs. William Speece, presidents of the Ladies' Aid.

The pastor's of the church have been; D. E. Long, 1903-06; C. A. Snively, 1906-08; C. A. Mutch, 1908-11; A. L. Haeseler, 1911-17; G. W. Hallman, 1917-18; O. L. Mease, 1918-23; M. V. Fridinger, 1928-33; and S. T. Dundore, 1933-46.

Oberlin, Neidig Memorial Church

"Neidig's Meetinghouse," named for the Reverend John Neidig¹³ was built in about the year 1793. It was the first church building erected east of the Susquehanna River by the followers of Otterbein and Boehm. Dr. Drury writes of this building as follows:

The Oberlin Church house, near Harrisburg, has more than a passing interest. As far as can now be ascertained, the Oberlin, or Neidig Church was the second to be built by the United Brethren, the Geeting church at Antietam, built before 1774, being the first. But of the Antietam church we know very little. No deed was ever given for this property.¹⁴

There was in existence a manuscript written in German which contained a list of subscriptions, an accounting of the costs of materials, and a record of donation of labor and materials pertaining to the erection of the meetinghouse.¹⁵ The introductory statement in this manuscript is as follows: "We the United Brethren, do hereby promise to pay the respective sums of money placed opposite our names for the purpose of paying the meeting-house we have lately constructed." The names on the list are: John Neidig, Felix Landis, John Light, Jacob Kerr, Philip Brown, Henry Stoner, John Stubitz, Jacob Good, Ludwig Degan, Christian Eby, Henry Stence, John Snavelly, Philip Stence, Peter Pancake, Frederick Pancake, Jacob Shultz, Conrad Long, widow Winagle, widow Witmer, and widow Strayer. The individual amounts subscribed appear, amounting in the total to seventy-three pounds, seventeen shillings, and six pence. In a second list, under each name, are the items of credits for cash contributions and donations of labor and material, which amount to seventy pounds, nine shillings, and eight pence.

According to the deed for the church lot, dated August 4, 1803, "John Roop and wife, Mary, sold one-half acre of ground to the Reverend John Neydick, Felix Landis, and John Light, Trustees of the German Society, or Congregation of People residing in Swatara Township," for the price of five shillings. John Roop had settled on a tract of land of one-hundred and fifty acres, for which a warrant had been issued to Alexander Stevens in 1737. But Mr. Stevens had never received a patent for the same. A patent was finally granted to Mr. Roop April 24, 1821. Inasmuch as Mr. Roop was not in actual possession of the church lot when he sold it, and probably also because the name of the grantee was not given fully in the deed, he signed a statement of release under date of April 3, 1822, in which the grantee is designated; "The German Society of the United Brethren," and which release is appended to the deed. The lot formed the southeast corner of Mr. Roop's farm, or what would now be, the northeast corner of Main and High Streets, in Oberlin, the site of the present church building.

The building constructed of limestone, was about thirty by forty feet, with a sharply-sloped combed roof. The interior presented a plain appearance with no pulpit but a large table at one end of the

room. Around it on three sides sat the leaders in singing, who were all male persons, and on the fourth side sat *der Prediger*, (the preacher). In later years a desk was used instead of the table. This desk is still in possession of the church and is serving as a lecturn in the lecture room. "Needless to say there is not money enough anywhere to buy it," writes the pastor of the present, the Rev. J. R. MacDonald. The seats for the congregation were rudely constructed benches without backs. A large old-fashioned fireplace found its position in one corner of the room.

By the list of subscribers to the church building project as given above, we have before us the earliest membership roll of any local congregation in the conference. The subsequent available data on the Neidig's church is for the period 1846-56—the quarterly conference proceedings for the Highspire Circuit. Trustees for that period are: Jacob Snavelly, Christian Good (fuller), John and Samuel Neidig (sons of the Rev. John), Abraham Martin, Michael Frantz, Jacob Bender, Christian Good (farmer), and Henry Zimmerman. With one or two exceptions these brethren during the same period were class leaders and/or/class stewards. Samuel Neidig, Michael Frantz, and Henry Zimmerman were trustees at Highspire also, thus showing the close fellowship of the two congregations. Levi Wolfersberger and Henry Miller were additional leaders; Jonas Baker and J. Light additional stewards.

The old meetinghouse served the congregation fifty-seven years or until 1850, when a second church was erected on the site of the first. This was a frame structure, considerably larger than the first. The conference appointment at Oberlin during the time of the second church was known as "Churchville," taking its name from the town, which, as one historian writes, was so named because the place has "two large and well-supported churches, the Lutheran and the United Brethren."

In 1887 the third building, costing \$4,000 was erected. It was dedicated January 26, 1888, as the "Neidig Memorial United Brethren Church." There were morning, afternoon, and evening services, in which the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, presiding elder; and the Reverends M. J. Mumma, P. A. Bowman, and the pastor E. L. Hughes, took part. The trustees were C. B. Shope, John Livingstone, and A. H. Shope. The house of worship was a two-story structure—the first floor designed for Sunday School use and the second floor for a sanctuary.

During the pastorate of the Rev. E. A. G. Bossler a parsonage was built in the year 1891. The presiding elder currently wrote concerning it, "It is a frame dwelling, substantial, convenient, good water supply, a large lot, thus making it a very desirable home for the pastor and his family, and for his successors." The large lot here referred to shows that the brethren at Oberlin wisely held on to the half acre of ground donated by John Roop. Part of this ground was used as a burial lot. Later the bodies of the dead were disinterred and buried in the northwest corner of the Oberlin Cemetery.



Oberlin Church

The church was enlarged in 1908 by addition of a structure, sixteen by six feet. Improvements to church and parsonage, and new installations made at the same time cost \$5,830.86. Further improvements made to the two buildings in 1913 cost \$1,849.14. An Estey Pipe Organ was installed and small annex built to house the same, in 1920. The amount of expenditure was \$7,297.60. The appearance and facilities of the church were brought to modern standards in 1943, at a cost of \$9,978.60. During the five years of pastor J. R. MacDonald's administration \$37,858.97 were raised for all purposes.

At his direction the improvements of 1943 were made, and the congregation subsequently thereto celebrated its Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary. A week of special services were held, May 23-30. Bishop G. D. Batdorf, dedicated the gifts and memorials on May the thirtieth. Recognition was given to those who made possible 150 years of continued church history, in a profusely-illustrated and informative book of sixty-eight pages.

The Sunday School was organized prior to 1846. The first organizing of a Women's Missionary Society was in 1889, the second in 1895, and the third in 1902—this latter continues to the present. Mrs. Emma Aungst is president and Miss Bertha Eby, treasurer. An Otterbein Guild was organized, first in 1904; and second in 1937, with Mrs. Winifred Shambaugh as president. Officers of the Ladies' Aid are, Mrs. John Peck, Mrs. Miriam Hacker, and Mrs. O. C. Bishop. At the time of the 1943 celebration the following persons had fifty or more years of church membership: Mrs. Aaron Lyter, J. E. Berkeheimer, Agnes Peck, Bertha Eby, Bertie Morgan, Harry Aungst, Wm. H. Look, Maggie Hagar, Blanche Horner, Ida Eby Mower, Mrs. Joseph Wolfe, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Adam Aungst.

George F. Stengel, lay delegate to annual conference for some years, and to the General Conference of 1917, was a staunch supporter of the work locally for many years. William H. Horner, another influential layman, has to his credit thirty-eight years as Sunday School Superintendent, twenty-three years as trustee, and eighteen years as delegate to annual conference. He has served on various committees of annual conference and is a member of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association Board.

The roll of ministers serving this congregation naturally has on it the names of John Neidig and Jacob Roop. At what date those ministers appointed to Lancaster Circuit began serving Oberlin can not now be ascertained. The Lancaster Circuit included the area from 1800 to 1831. From 1831 onward the church was affiliated with the following circuits: Halifax, 1831-33; Dauphin Circuit, 1833-45; Highspire Circuit, 1845-69; Hummelstown Circuit, 1869-73; With Steelton, 1873-74; Highspire Circuit, 1874-88. Since 1888 the following have been appointed to Oberlin charge: J. B. Daugherty, 1888-90; E. A. G. Bossler, 1890-93; U. S. G. Renn, 1893-96; J. Francis Smith, 1896-99; M. A. Salt, 1899-1901; J. A. Keiper, 1901-10; C. E. Boughter, 1910-15; H. S. Kiefer, 1915-21; Clarence Mease, 1921-23; I. N. Seldomridge, 1923-29; R. S. Heberlig, 1929-37; and J. R. MacDonald, 1937-46.

Penbrook Grace Church

The congregation worshipping in the handsome stone edifice standing on the corner of Twenty-eight and Walnut Streets in Penbrook, had its origin in what was known as Raysor's Church. The facts concerning the earlier building and congregation are therefore stated in this connection.

The Raysor's Church building stood at the western tip of a tri-

angular church lot, about a mile east of the Jonestown Road passing through Penbrook. It is a matter of record that there was a Raysor's class, meeting in the home of the Rev. John Raysor, founder of the congregation, as early as 1849, and according to tradition as early as 1838. The Raysor, Good, Hoffnagle, Brightbill, Wenrich, and Sheesley families formed the nucleus of this class. The Rev. John Raysor, son of Johannes and Elizabeth Rösser (the German spelling of the name), was born January 1, 1789. He was admitted to annual conference in 1838, and always held the relation of a local minister. Some months after his death, which occurred August 31, 1850, in a brief obituary appearing in the Religious Telescope, the following comment was made: "He was a zealous and consistent preacher, anxious for the prosperity of Zion."

Two years after the Rev. Raysor's death the class erected a church house. At a quarterly meeting on the Dauphin Circuit, October 16, 1852, "Permission was asked to build a meeting house at or in the neighborhood of Razor's Class, which on motion was agreed to. On motion, Abraham Razor, Daniel Shell, and Jonas Shessley were elected as trustees to build said meeting house. "By deed issued June 30, 1853, Jonathan Shessley and Wife Catharine (daughter of John Raysor), for the consideration of one dollar, granted to Abraham Raysor (brother of Rev. John), Jacob Snavelly, and Daniel Shell, trustees for the congregation, a lot of ninety square perches. Though the building has since been removed, the site is well known by the cemetery located on part of it.

Henry Herr, an early promoter of United Brethrenism in and about Harrisburg, was a member at Raysor's. In 1849 he was leader of the class, and from 1849 to 1852 was its steward. Jonathan (otherwise, Jonas) Sheesley, Joseph Saul, Jacob Snavelly, John Raysor Jr., William Hoffnagle, David Smith, John W. Brightbill, J. Nissley, John J. Wenrich, Elias Shope, Samuel and David Whitmoyer are mentioned as officers of the quarterly, serving in the capacity of class leader and stewards, in the period from 1849 to 1872. Franklin Miller was Sunday School superintendent 1870-72, and he was followed by Isaac Holtzman. Abraham Shessley, a local minister of this congregation was a contemporary of the Rev. Raysor. He was born in 1787; was converted in 1826, and first licensed in 1831. His quarterly conference license was renewed from year to year until the year of his death, 1872.

Ministers who preached at Raysor's Church by conference appointment were those appointed to the following circuits: Dauphin, 1838-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown, 1857-58; Dauphin, 1858-64; Harrisburg, 1864-68; Union Deposit, 1868-69; Harrisburg 1869-73; Linglestown, 1873-77; Harrisburg, 1877-88; and East Harrisburg, 1888-92.

Harrisburg's ever increasing population pushed eastwardly, so that by 1875 the area east of Canby Street was laid out in building lots, and became known as "East Harrisburg," or sometimes also called "Grantville." It was the same that is now called Penbrook. By 1881 certain members of the Raysor's Church believed they



Penbrook Church

could do a greater service and have a more favorable location if the congregation moved to this new development. A trustee board, consisting of John Major, Benjamin H. Engle, Enoch Runkle, David Whitmoyer, and Isaac Holtzman was elected. A lot on the Jones-town Road near East Twenty-eighth Street was purchased for \$100 and a frame church building erected thereon. The house of worship was dedicated February 19, 1882 by Bishops J. J. Glossbrenner and John Dickson, assisted by presiding elder Ezekiel Light and the pastor G. A. Loose.

It soon became evident that, while the leaders of this new congregation were confident of success in beginning a work in Penbrook, they were much too conservative in their estimate of that success. The first building proved to be too inadequate—after passing of but eight years they bought additional ground adjoining the original

purchase and set themselves to the task of erecting a new frame building. This was practically a two-story structure, 48x70 feet, costing \$5,500. All indebtedness having been provided, it was dedicated December 14, 1890 by Bishop John Dickson, with H. B. Dohner, presiding elder, and pastor M. A. Salt assisting.

Part of the membership at Raysor's Church continued to worship in their old building after the new in Penbrook had been built. The two congregations were attached to the same circuit from 1881 to 1892. It was the Harrisburg Circuit from 1881 to 1888, and the ministers serving it were: G. A. Loose, 1881-83; C. W. Hutzler, 1883-86; E. L. Hughes, 1886-87; and M. J. Mumma, 1887-88. From 1888 to 1892 it was East Harrisburg Circuit, the ministers appointed were: M. J. Mumma, 1888-89; M. A. Salt, 1889-1892. Under the Rev. G. F. Bierman, 1892-93, the Raysor's membership came into the organization at Penbrook.

In 1920, under the pastorate of the Rev. H. M. Miller, plans were formulated for the erection of a modern house of worship. New property was secured on the southeast corner of Twenty-eighth and Walnut Streets. After careful architectural and financial planning, ground breaking exercises were held on May 14, 1922. The cornerstone was laid with appropriate exercises, May 23, by Dr. J. A. Lyter, assisted by the pastor, Dr. Schaeffer, Mr. I. B. Swartz, chairman of the building committee, and Thomas Stephenson, contractor. After building operations were well under way, work was held up for two months due to financial difficulties on the part of the contracting firm. Mr. Harry A. Sherk, member of the Derry Street Church, a builder and contractor of wide experience was engaged to complete the work. The temple of worship was dedicated on September 9, 1923. Dr. Enck preached in the morning of that day, and Dr. W. R. Funk of Dayton, Ohio, dedicated the sanctuary at the afternoon service and preached in the evening.

It is an imposing structure with walls of Vermont Grey Ashler Marble. Its graceful tall tower speaks of that strength and beauty which becomes the house of prayer. Its interior construction and furnishings, and its art windows match the elegance of its exterior. Its spacious sanctuary is flanked on the right by a general assembly room; and individual class rooms on two floors for Sunday School work. The basement floor is fitted out for departmental school work and social activities.

The building committee consisted of the pastor, Dr. Schaeffer, I. B. Swartz, chairman, O. E. Good, secretary, Joseph E. Shenk, treasurer, Levi Basehore, J. L. Booser, Samuel G. Snoddy, B. F. Knupp, C. H. Lyter, and George M. Aungst. Cost of the building including contents was \$133,276.52.

The first parsonage for this parish was built in 1904 at a cost of \$2,500 on the site formerly occupied by the first frame church building. The present manse, a brick semi-bungalow building, on the corner of Thirtieth and Herr Streets was built at a cost of

\$15,424.16, including the cost of ground. It was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, October 23, 1928.

Sunday School superintendents of Grace Church from the time of its organization have been, Benjamin H. Engle, Amos E. Enders, Harry A. Sherk, George B. Hacker, Dr. E. L. Shope, and O. E. Good, the present incumbent. From the Centennial Souvenir Book published in 1944, we gather the names of the following official personnel—official board officers: Dr. H. E. Schaeffer, Harry W. Hagy, Arthur E. Aungst, Horace G. Erb; church trustee board, Oscar E. Good, H. C. Garber, John H. Shenk, John Crum, Arthur Aungst, Levi Basehore, Brook A. Pletz, R. D. Hospers, George P. Shaeffer; parsonage board, John W. Lear, Herbert Lambert, R. R. Shaffner, Edward Pletz, Frank Witmer, George Yetter, Clarence V. Zeiders; class leaders, John W. Lear, Joseph A. Cooper; congregational representatives, R. M. Hoover, J. S. Zimmerman, James D. Wallace; Sunday School, general officers, Oscar E. Good, Brooke A. Peltz, C. E. Meckley, Clyde Weiser; and directors, Lester Holtzman, Mrs. Mary Hoerner; Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. DeWitt Zimmerman, Mrs. Myrna Shaffner; Otterbein Guild, Miss Jean Heinly, Miss Margaret Shaffner; Ladies' Aid Society, Mrs. J. A. Wilson, Mrs. William Houck; Intermediate C. E., Mrs. Dewitt Zimmerman; Jr. C. E., Miss Elizabeth A. Bowman; directors of music, Mrs. Sara L. Aungst, and Mrs. H. E. Schaeffer.

The minister of this congregation since 1921 is the Rev. Harry E. Schaeffer. During his ministry the present church and parsonage have been built, and the membership increased from 452 to 759. Before coming to Penbrook he served Lebanon Circuit 1912-15, and Avon Church 1915-21. Dr. Schaeffer is an alumnus of Lebanon Valley College, having received the A.B. degree in 1917, the A.M. degree in 1921, the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1929; and has been a trustee of the college since 1925. He was admitted to annual conference in 1913, and was ordained in 1918. He is a member of numerous boards and committees in the annual conference organization; and of committees of General Conference, to which body he was a delegate five consecutive sessions, 1929-1945, and of the uniting session of 1946.

The list of ministers serving Penbrook since 1893 is as follows: H. T. Denlinger, 1893-98; Z. A. Weidler, 1898-1900; Thomas Garland, 1900-02; M. H. Jones, 1902-07; H. M. Miller, 1907-21; and H. E. Schaeffer, 1921-46.

Riegle's Church, Mifflin Township

This church carries the name of the Riegle family which was quite prominent in this part of Dauphin County. Benjamin Riegle and wife, Catharine Deibler Riegle, in the year 1844 sold sixty square perches of land to a trustee board consisting of John Werner, John Yeager Sr., and William Motter, for the erection of a house of worship.

Benjamin Riegle, son of George, and grandson of John Riegle and

wife Elizabeth Zeller Riegle, was a prosperous farmer of upper Dauphin County. The grandparents were of the Riegle and Zeller families who came under the influence of Otterbein's preaching in the valley of the Tulpehocken. Benjamin was born in Tulpehocken Township, Berks County, March 24, 1805. Due to hard work and good management he gained considerable material means. He was a stockholder in Harrisburg banks, and was one of the organizers of a bank in Millersburg and also one in Lykens. The Church was not the least of his interests. He was a life-long member of Riegle's Church, which he supported generously. He was a member of the first trustee board of Jacob's (Killinger's) Church, a trustee at Riegle's, and lay delegate representing Lykens Valley Circuit at annual conference sessions. He lived to the great age of ninety-seven years, eleven months, and twenty days.

The first church in which the congregation worshipped was erected in 1844. It was of brick construction, and located on an elevation of ground north of the Millersburg-Berrysburg Road, a little more than five miles out of Millersburg. The second church, also of brick, was erected on the site of the first in 1909-10, at a cost of \$5,400.

The Riegle, Hoy, Landis, Lehman, Deibler, and Lenker families were of those who had a large share in the work of this congregation. Trustees now serving are: Lemuel Dressler, Frank Erdman, William Wert, Arnold, and Irvin Deibler—the last named is also the Sunday School superintendent.

Samuel Lehman and wife, Catherine, nee Diebler, were of the early members. William H. Lehman, their son, also a member at Riegle's received annual Conference license in 1899. His ministry was limited to occasional service to the churches of Lykens Valley. He was active as Sunday School superintendent, class leader and trustee until he moved to Millersburg, where he died in the eighty-



Manada Hill Church



Riegle's Church

fifth year of his age in 1936. The Reverend Arthur S. Lehman, son of William H. was converted in 1892 in Riegle's Church. He taught school five terms in the upper end of the County. This class voted him quarterly conference license. He was granted annual license in 1901, and was ordained in 1910. In preparation for the ministry he attended Lebanon Valley College and Bonebrake Theological Seminary. Lebanon Valley conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1920. While in the eleventh year of his pastorate at Derry Street Church, Harrisburg, he died, December 21, 1936. Charges of the conference previously held by him were: East Harrisburg Circuit, 1901-03; Manheim and Ruhl's, 1903-07; and Hummelstown Church, 1910-25. The Rev. Walter E. Diebler also received quarterly conference license upon recommendation of this class.

The church has been attached to the following charges: Halifax Circuit, 1844-54; Lykens Circuit, 1854-1922; Millersburg Quarterly Conference, 1922-23; Lykens Circuit, 1923-26; Millersburg Quarterly Conference, 1926-29; Tremont charge, 1929-32; and Millersburg, 1932-46.

Rockville Church

The Rockville class was organized during the conference year 1868-69. In that year the Reverends Henry Schropp and J. W. Boughter were traveling the Union Deposit Circuit and extended their labors to Rockville. At the conference of 1869 Harrisburg Circuit was reorganized and the Rockville class was attached to it. Due to the large number of appointments of the circuit, the first quarterly held directed that Simon S. Mower serve the classes at Rockville and Fishing Creek. The Rev. Mower received annual license at the 1869 session. He resided at Linglestown, and being without an appointment, was available to assist the pastor on the charge. Simon Eisenhour and David Runkle were the first official members of the class.

Rockville was constituted a Station in 1872, and the Rev. Mower was regularly appointed. His annual report to conference session of 1873 shows there were nineteen members at the beginning of the conference year and that they had a gain of five. During his year a frame church building, approximately thirty by sixty feet, was erected on ground donated by David Runkle and wife Julia.

When the building was erected its location was central for its constituency, but as time went on increase in population was greater a mile or so to the south. Furthermore, the building was hemmed in by the Pennsylvania Canal on the west and the Northern Central Railroad on the east. By 1926 the matter of relocating became a live issue. The congregation keenly sensed the need for it and the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society favored steps to accomplish the same. A building fund was established, and ground on the northwest corner of Sixth Street and Linglestown Road was purchased.

After half the amount required for the proposed project had been provided, plans submitted by Mr. Harry A. Sherk, contractor, were approved, and ground was broken for the erection of a new church. These exercises were held, June 1, 1930, at which time Dr. D. E. Young and the Rev. C. R. Beittel made addresses. The cornerstone was laid August 3, by Dr. S. C. Enck. Dedicatory services for the completed structure were held December 21, 1930. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached at the morning service and dedicated the house of worship. Visiting pastors brought greetings at the afternoon service. Dr. Enck preached at the evening service; and presented the financial needs at all of the day's services, with the result that \$6,287.68 were raised in cash and subscriptions. Friends of the congregation generously supported the financial effort. At the time of dedication the church membership numbered ninety-seven. The building constructed of Watson town red brick has a fine appearance, and its interior is properly laid out for modern educational work and public worship. Its cost with furnishings was \$26,000.

The Rev. Walter G. Bowers, a local minister, has served the congregation by conference appointment since 1926. A new Moller pipe organ costing \$3,000 was installed in 1942, and was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, May 10. Dr. D. E. Young conducted mortgage-burning ceremonies in 1944. It was under the Rev. Bowers that the project of relocating was begun and completed, and the church and grounds and all recent installations paid. He reported a membership of 170 at the close of 1946.

Trustees for the property of the Rockville congregation during its earlier years were: David Runkle, John Garverich, David Blosser, John H. Myers, Samuel Lontz, John B. Blosser, Anson Stein, and Lloyd Wagner. Trustees during Rev. Bowers' ministry have been: A. B. Martin, David Stine, Mildred Wagner, William H. Beers, S. D. Fox, I. C. Shambaugh, John Shatto, and A. Meade Juillard. A partial list of Sunday School superintendents is as follows: George Walker, George Carr, Elias Mease, Samuel Lontz, George W. Bowers, Grant Garverich, A. B. Martin, Lloyd Wagner, John B. Blosser, Irvin W. Barner, Frank Schrauder, and William H. Beers. Mrs. Ellen Hoover, Hazel Zeigler, and Marian Fox head the ladies' organizations. S. D. Fox has been church treasurer for many years.

Since 1873, the Rockville Church has been attached to the following circuits: Linglestown, 1873-77; Harrisburg, 1877-93; East Harrisburg, 1893-99; Harrisburg, 1899-1912; and to Linglestown Charge, 1912-24. Since constituted a charge in 1924, the following ministers have served: E. E. Saul, 1924-25; C. L. Early, 1925-26; and Walter G. Bowers, 1926-46.

Royalton Emanuel Church

John Mathias is generally recognized as the founder of the United Brethren in Christ Church at Royalton. This Christian man and a few other like-minded persons met at his home which was in the same block in which the Church now stands. This group consisted of John, Susan, and Priscilla Mathias; John and Fannie Chrissemer;

and Jeremiah and Carolyn Cryder. The Rev. S. M. Hummel who resided at Hummelstown being without a regular charge, rendered a spiritual ministry to these people in 1873. The Rev. H. C. Phillips organized a class February 22, 1874. It was attached to Middletown Charge in 1874 and served by Rev. Phillips two years.

This small congregation was minded to build a house of worship. John Mathias and wife Susan donated a lot extending thirty-four feet on Wyoming Street, and forty-five feet along Penn Street. A small frame chapel twenty by forty feet, known as "Centennial Chapel of the United Brethren in Christ," was erected on said lot, and dedicated free of debt in the year 1875. The board of trustees consisted of John Mathias of Royalton, and Benjamin S. Peters and John H. Baker of Middletown. The chapel was renovated in 1884 and four years later it was enlarged by the addition of twenty feet.

In the first deed for the lot, dated December 5, 1874, Susan Mathias is the sole grantee. A nominal charge of one dollar is stipulated as the purchase price. There is on record a second deed, dated April 2, 1893, the grantees being Susan and John Mathias, and the sale price is \$1,400. The trustees therein named are: Samuel H. Ney, William L. Stotz, Daniel Ney, John G. Kinsey, Henry L. Granger, Jacob S. Updegraff, and John N. Rife.

In this same year the present brick church was erected on the site of the old at a cost of \$5,850. It was dedicated by Bishop E. B. Kephart February 18, 1894. The financial burden proved to be too great for the congregation. The presiding elder in his report to annual conference in the fall of that year reported the financial situation to be very precarious. The church had to be sold in 1896, but in 1897, Dr. Lowery reported that through, "The indefatigable efforts of the pastor, H. D. Lehman, the church has again been secured to us." Evidently pastor Lehman had assumed the obligation, inasmuch as the proceedings of 1899 state the following: "The late H. Dickson Lehman has in his last will and testament bequeathed to this conference the church property at Royalton which was purchased by him." Such was the manner in which one church of this conference was saved to the conference and the denomination, i.e., by the effort and self-sacrifice of its pastor.

He merits a brief statement of his career. The Rev. Harry Dickson Lehman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leander Lehman, was born at West Fairview, Pa., March 11, 1863, and died at Royalton, July 11, 1899, at the age of thirty-six years and four months. He was converted in his tender years in Harrisburg First Church. After having completed a course in Union Biblical (Bonebrake) Seminary in 1886 at the age of twenty-three years, he was assigned to Philadelphia Mt. Pisgah (First) Church, where he remained two years. Then followed his first pastorate at Royalton, 1888-1892. From 1892 to 1895 he served Reading Otterbein Church. In 1895, at the earnest request of the people at Royalton, he was returned to their church. Evidences of failing health first appeared during his last year at Reading, and his affliction increased so that he could not take up his

appointment at Royalton in 1895. But being reappointed in 1896, he served the congregation until the time of his death. He literally wore himself out for the Master's cause.

The church which was brought through its trials and reverses by the Rev. Lehman has since prospered and triumphed. The building was completely renovated in 1919. Improvements on the exterior consisted of laying concrete pavement and steps, erecting of pillar lights, and lowering of steeple; on the interior, walls and ceiling were refrescoed, and new carpet, new lights, and new pews were installed. The trustees overseeing the work were: W. H. Wolfe, A. K. Conrad, Edwin Treichler, George Wolfe, C. R. Landis, J. H. Flowers, and J. G. Updegraff. Dr. S. C. Enck preached morning and evening at reopening services on September 14, 1919. Two years later, a new parsonage, modern in every respect, was built costing \$8,100. It also was dedicated by Dr. Enck, the event taking place September 4, 1921. The Rev. C. R. Beittel led the congregation in both these enterprises.

A second general renovation was made in 1938 at a cost of \$1,452.56. Under the ministry of the present pastor, the Rev. Harry C. Mark, further improvements have been made to church and parsonage, and a garage of cement blocks has been built. A Hammond electric organ, new pulpit, new altar table, and collection plates were dedicated by Dr. H. E. Miller, March 22, 1942.

The various names, Centennial Chapel, South Middletown, East Middletown, and Furnace Hill, which are all found in boundary committee reports complicates matters in trying to ascertain the church's attachments to charges. To the best of our knowledge it was attached to Middletown, 1874-1878; Swatara Circuit, 1878-79; and Middletown, 1879-88. Since 1888 the pastors at Royalton Church have been: H. D. Lehman, 1888-92; J. Francis Smith, 1892-94; P. A. Bowman, 1894-95; H. D. Lehman, J. W. Boughter, 1895-96; H. D. Lehman, 1896-98; H. D. Lehman, J. K. Henry, 1898-99; G. W. M. Rigor, 1899-1901; C. S. Miller, 1901-08; Z. A. Weidler, 1908-11; J. Francis Smith, 1908-13; H. A. Smith, 1913-15; William Beach, 1915-18; C. R. Beittel, 1918-22; Paul Fridinger, 1922-25; S. G. Haas, 1925-26;



Royalton Church



Shope's Church

E. M. Strickler, 1926-28; R. E. Morgan, 1928-30; G. W. Hendrickson, 1930-34; J. Howard Burtner, 1934-38; J. C. Deitzler, 1938-39; and Harry C. Mark, 1939-46.

Shope's Church, Derry Township

There was a class of worshippers known as "Round Top Class" which met in the homes of its members who resided in the vicinity of the present Shope's Church. It is first mentioned as an appointment on the old Hummelstown Circuit in the year 1857. Quite appropriately, "Round Top" correctly describes a conical-shaped, wooded hilltop which stands like a sentinel over the hilly region to the north of the Elizabethtown-Middletown Road within a few miles of the latter town. Henry Shope (1821-1901) the leading spirit of the organization, together with Joseph and George Weirich, J. Brady, John McGarvey, J. Martin, H. Musser, Peter Gipe, Henry Gipe, and M. Miller were among the laymen who served the class as leaders and stewards.

Brother Shope received quarterly conference license on April 10th, 1858, which license was renewed from time to time over a long period. The certificate issued to him on that date, signed by A. Steigerwalt, presiding elder, was handed to the writer a few years ago by a descendent. Joseph Weirich mentioned above was also granted license by recommendation of the Round Top class. In the year 1873 he became a member of annual conference, and in 1876 he was ordained. He served as an active itinerant until the year 1881.

In the year 1863, the matter of erecting a house of worship was considered and a committee consisting of J. Martin, Henry Shope, and John McGarvey was appointed with that end in view. It was not, however, until the year 1874 that a small frame church was erected. It was sometimes referred to as "Centenary Chapel," inasmuch as it was erected in the centennial year of Otterbein's going to Baltimore—a year generally observed as a centennial throughout the denomination. Henry Shope and wife Magdalena sold one-half acre of ground for the consideration of \$50 to the trustees acting for the congregation who were: Jacob Geyer, Rev. Solomon L. Hummel, and Martin Ulrich. The class remained attached to Hummelstown Circuit until 1866, then in that year was attached to Union Circuit.

The congregation now numbers sixty-five members and the Sunday School has an enrollment of 111 pupils. The trustee board is composed of Mrs. Mae Heisey, Ray Winters, William Hocker, Joseph Bauder, and Harry Duncan.

In 1875, Shope's Church was attached to Swatara Circuit, 1879 to Middletown Circuit, 1880 to Conewago, 1882 to Swatara, 1885 to Fishburn's, in 1901 to Hillsdale, in 1917 to Stoverdale, and in 1921 to Hummelstown.

Steelton Centenary Church

In the year 1866 when the town of Baldwin (now Steelton) was laid out there were but six families residing within the area. The

following year Joseph C. Mumma moved to Baldwin and finding that a few United Brethren families had located there "he saw a door of usefulness opened and at once resolved to enter in and occupy for the Lord in establishing a United Brethren Church." These families invited the Rev. Jeremiah P. Smith, minister of the Highspire Circuit, to visit them. A class was organized and Mr. Mumma was elected their leader. During the winter of 1867-68 a revival was held and at the first meeting four persons presented themselves at an altar of prayer. The revival continued for about six weeks and thirty souls professed to have found peace in Christ, most of whom united with the class.

The quarterly conference of Highspire Circuit elected Samuel Reitzel, Henry Harpel, and Joseph C. Mumma as trustees and authorized them to provide a place of worship. This they did by purchasing an old schoolhouse in 1868 for the sum of \$200. They also leased, for a term of five years, the ground on which the schoolhouse stood. The building was remodeled and served the congregation until expiration of the lease. By the year 1873 the need for a larger building was pressing. A new trustee board composed of Cornelius B. Shope of Oberlin, David R. Hoffman and Abram Hursh of Baldwin, acting for the congregation, bought lots Nos. 97 and 98, fronting fifty feet on Second Street and extending in depth 125 feet to Raspberry Alley, for the sum of \$400. The church erected on these lots was dedicated by Bishop Jonathan Weaver June 29, 1874. Assisting in the services were the presiding elder, G. W. Miles Rigor, Ex-Bishop Jacob Erb, the Rev. Joseph C. Mumma, and the pastor, E. F. Light. A report to quarterly conference, dated January 11, 1875 shows the church and lot to have cost \$3,073.71, of which amount \$1,732.22 remained unpaid.

Two days before dedication, pastor Light resigned. He came from some western conference to apply for work in East Pennsylvania at the session held in March, 1874. On coming to the field he found a small membership—twenty-eight in number—and the financial prospect not very encouraging. His family never came east. After a brief pastorate of less than four months he returned to the West. John H. Graybill, a student in theology, was appointed and served until September. The Rev. Lewis Peters succeeded him, and reported at the end of the conference year a membership of sixty-one.

The name adopted for the Baldwin Church was "Centenary"; due to the denomination-wide celebration of the One-hundredth Anniversary of Otterbein's going to the Baltimore Church. In 1880 the town and some settlements in close proximity to it were incorporated as the "Borough of Steelton." Joseph C. Mumma, who as a layman was the leading spirit in establishing the class, was licensed by annual conference in 1869, and was ordained an elder in 1872. He was pastor of the congregation he founded, three years (1880-83). His previous pastorates were: Mt. Joy Circuit, Columbia Salome, Mountville Circuit, Schuylkill Haven Church, and New



Steelton Church

Holland Church. In 1883 he was appointed to Baltimore George Street Church, from which he resigned before completing the year. In 1884 his membership ceased, having withdrawn irregularly.

Within fifteen years after completion of the first house of worship it became advisable to build a larger one. To do so, a larger piece

of ground was purchased, fronting seventy-five feet on South Second Street, opposite the old location, for a sum of \$2,000. Early in 1888 ground was broken for the new building. The old building was sold to the German Lutheran congregation, which took possession October 1, 1888. On the first Sunday of October of the same year, the basement, or lecture room of the new building, was formally opened and dedicated by the Rev. Isaiah Baltzell, presiding elder. The second floor, or Sanctuary Room, was dedicated by Bishop John Dickson October 19, 1890, assisted by H. B. Dohner, presiding elder, and the pastor, E. L. Hughes. While in the course of construction, a year previous the presiding elder wrote of this project: "It will be decidedly the best house of worship in the conference. The brethren there have undertaken a gigantic work." The cost of the structure in its entirety was approximately \$13,000.

Improvements and enlargements made to this building and costs have been as follows: in 1902 improvements and installation of a pipe organ, \$8,500; in 1916 improvements and additional space, \$12,000; in 1924, expenditures on remodeling parsonage, laying hard wood floors in the church, and redecorating \$14,000; improvements to parsonage and church in 1936, \$3,628; and in 1942 installation of a new Moller pipe organ, and a stoker \$8,032.29.

A house to be used as a parsonage was bought in 1883 at a cost of \$1,800. The trustees at that time were: G. R. Hutchinson, A. Y. Kneisley, E. J. Grundun, Adam Beinhauer, J. L. Dickinson, David Young, George W. Parks, T. J. Reed, and J. N. Martin. It served as a parsonage until 1915 when the house at number 232 South Second Street was secured for that purpose.

Dates of organization of the several departments of the church are as follows: Ladies' Mite Society (Ladies' Aid), April 12, 1875; Olive Branch Society, July 9, 1876; Gleaner's Band (Young People's Missionary Society), 1885, Woman's Missionary Society, 1880; and Junior Society of Christian Endeavor, February 13, 1894. Though no dates of organization of other groups have been submitted, it can be said that Centenary Church is functioning through all those organizations common to our local church setup.

A Mission Sunday School was organized in Rheeling's Hall, West Steelton in 1885. Annual Conference of the year 1886 authorized that a Mission Station be established in West Steelton, but it remained without a pastoral appointment, the work was continued under supervision of Centenary Church. The Conference Missionary Society purchased a lot in 1889, paying \$200 on the purchase price of \$900, "with a view to build a chapel whenever circumstances will favor such an enterprise." Due to the silence of conference records on further procedure of this venture, we surmise it was soon thereafter dropped.

The amazing growth of the Steelton community made it a fertile field for expansion. The constant enlargement of the house of worship is indicative of an increase in membership. Mass evangelistic efforts from time to time resulted in many converts. Probably the

greatest increase in any single year was that of the second year of Dr. A. K. Wier's pastorate when 148 persons were received to church membership on profession of faith. The church membership reached its peak in 1921—708 in number—under Dr. Joseph Daugherty. In more recent years there have been decreases due to several prevailing factors, of which the greatest is the shifting population. Of the 538 members now on the church roll, 152, or more than one-fourth of the total are non-resident. The Rev. Harry W. Deaven, pastor since 1942, is doing heroic work in coping with that which every pastor dealing with a similar situation knows to be a difficult task.

The official directory of the year 1945-46 contains the following officers: George W. Parks, W. H. Cumbler, J. B. Malehorn, E. E. Herrman, Lawrence Eckels, Clarence Dessenberg, Raymond Gerhart, E. U. Balsbaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ort, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. George Hartz, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Behman, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stouffer, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Finger, M. S. Marks, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Geesey, Guy Stehman, R. D. Shipley, John Beistline, Sr., Benjamin Conner, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Burtner, Mrs. Stephen Lukio, Mrs. A. Drayer Jr., Mrs. Kathryn Gardner, Mrs. John Baker, Mrs. Marion B. Linn, Mrs. W. H. Cumbler, Mrs. Lee Kuntz, Dorothy Beistline, Evelyn Baker, Robert Miller, Frank Pugh, Fern Dessenberg, Evelyn Dietrich, and Mrs. Harry W. Deaven.

Professor Earl Caton is giving exceptionally fine service as director of the choir. Mrs. Harvey Baker is church organist and Miss Rachel Stoner is her assistant. George W. Parks born March 8, 1854 has served in many local capacities. He has been a trustee of property since 1883, and recently was elected president emeritus of the board. Brother Parks still attends morning worship regularly. J. B. Malehorn is a familiar figure at the sessions of annual conference, representing his church as lay delegate.

The church was affiliated with Highspire Circuit, 1869-71; Hummelstown-Highspire Circuit, 1871-72, and with Highspire Circuit, 1872-73. It continued on the conference records as Baldwin Church until the year 1880, from then onward as Steelton, Centenary Church. Ministers since 1873 have been: A. V. H. Gosweiler, 1873-74; E. F. Light, John H. Graybill, Lewis Peters, 1874-75; Lewis Peters, 1875-76; H. C. Phillips, 1876-80; J. C. Mumma, 1880-83; J. R. Hutchinson, 1883-86; Lewis Peters, 1886-89; E. L. Hughes, 1889-92; J. R. Meredith, 1892-93; Esdras Ludwig, 1893-96; J. M. Shelly, 1896-99; A. R. Myers, 1899-1907; E. A. G. Bossler, 1907-13; A. K. Wier, 1913-18; Joseph Daugherty, 1918-23; C. W. Hendrickson, 1923-28; E. O. Burtner, 1928-35; P. E. Fridinger, 1935-42; and Harry W. Deaven, 1942-46.

Stoverdale Memorial Church, Derry Township

Edward Stover Sr., the founder of Stoverdale Memorial Church was a successful businessman of Harrisburg, whose residence was on the site of the present Pomeroy's Store of that city. He was also

the owner of a large farm located about two miles southwest of Hummelstown. Mr. Stover's first marriage was to Miss Mary Shenk and to them was born a son named Edward, who while a student at Dickinson Law School, took ill with a malignant disease and died at the Harrisburg residence. The father, who until this incident was not a professed Christian, interpreted the loss of his son "as a call from a Higher Power" to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and to devote his life to Christian service. He had been admonished by the dying son in his last hours that material wealth is but as dust in the sight of God.

Within two years after this event, the elder Mr. Stover set aside a tract of land for a church and cemetery and at his own expense erected a frame temple of worship, 30 x 40 feet in size. Mr. Stover, at the same time, began the development of a campmeeting grounds on his land bordering on the Swatara Creek. The church edifice, erected as a memorial to the deceased son, was dedicated August 4, 1872. Among the ministers participating on that occasion were: Ex-bishop Jacob Erb, and the Revs. J. F. Smith, Lewis Peters, Ezekiel Light, and G. W. Miles Rigor, the latter being presiding elder of the district.

The house of worship has been kept in an excellent state of repair. Recently a new carpet costing \$650 has been laid in the aisles and within and about the chancel. Two portraits hang on the south wall; one of the founder, and the other of the Rev. Mr. Rigor whom the founder held in high esteem. Piramidal aborvitae and stately pines form an artistic setting for the gleaming white structure with its well proportioned spire.

Edward Stover, a son of the second marriage of the elder Mr. Stover, took up the interests and the responsibilities the father laid down upon his death in the year 1903 in the eightieth year of his age. Edward Stover Jr. has been superintendent of the Sunday School since 1910. He has frequently been elected lay representative to annual conference. Dauphin County authorities have appointed him to civic duties within the county and recently he was elected county treasurer.

Christian Rupp and William Gollam have also served as superintendents of the School; Edward Habbyshaw, William Gollam and Jacob Gipe have served in the position of class leader. The trustees are Edward Stover, George Bricker, Harry Baum, Oliver Swartz, and John Stover.

The Stoverdale congregation was affiliated with Hummelstown charge from the time of its founding until 1882. In 1882 it was attached to the Swatara Circuit. From 1885 to 1889, the congregation was served by local preachers, among whom was the Rev. Solomon L. Swartz. In 1889 it became a part of Fishburn Circuit and in 1904 was attached to Union Circuit. The church remained under the quarterly conference of Union Circuit, 1914-1917, and Joseph Weirich preached by that arrangement at Stoverdale. Ministers serving the congregation from 1917 to 1929 were those of the Stover-



Killinger's Church
(Upper Paxtang Township)



Stoverdale Church

dale Circuit, and those serving from 1929 to 1946 were those appointed to Hummelstown Circuit.

St. Paul's Church, Jackson Township

Northeast of Jacksonville, near the base of Berry's Mountain stands St. Paul's Church. It was formerly also known as Deitrich's. It was so known because it stands on a parcel of ground sold by Isaac F. Deitrich. Josiah McCulley, Elias Meunch and James Hoke, trustees for the class purchased the said parcel of ground, consisting of one-half acre, October 1, 1873, for the price of \$75. The church was erected in the year 1874, the Rev. John D. Killian being pastor.

At the present time Lawrence Hoffman, Andrew Harmon, Mrs. Elsie Parmer, Frank Hoffman, and Amos Hetrick are trustee board members. Mrs. Andrew Harmon is in charge of the Sunday School.

It has been connected with the following circuits: Jacksonville, 1874-1919; Enders, 1919-1934; and Enders and Powell's Valley, 1934-1946.

Trinity Church, Jefferson Township

The easternmost church of four in Powell's Valley is located in a small settlement known as "Carsonville." Philip Runk, Jacob Runk and Solomon Buffington were trustees of a class when in 1862 one-fourth acre of ground was purchased for the location of a church. While seemingly there are no records to show when the frame building now standing on the said lot was erected, it was presumably in that year. The building was improved in 1874. At the present

time, James Hummel, Mrs. Charles Calmon, Vesta Kessler, Erma Fowler, and Mrs. George Kinsinger compose the trustee board.

Pastors of the following circuits were pastors of the congregation at Trinity: Halifax, 1862-1873; Jacksonville, 1873-1919; Powell's Valley, 1919-1934; and Enders and Powell's Valley, 1934-1946.

Union Church, Wayne Township

The first people to worship on the site of the present Union Church were Methodists. As early as 1842 they bought one-half acre of ground fronting on the south side of the northern road through Powell's Valley, about three miles east of Jacob's Church, and erected thereon a small frame building which was known as "Trinity Church." The United Brethren class worshiped in the building some time before purchasing it. In 1890 John Sheetz and William Lodge, surviving trustees of the M. E. Church, at the direction of the presiding elder of that denomination sold the property. It was deeded in that year to Philip G. Shoop, William Shoop, John Enders, Amos Sponsler and George Baker, trustees for the United Brethren congregation for the sum of one dollar. The original building was replaced by a new and larger one in the year 1892.

The Rev. Charles W. Shoop was granted a quarterly conference license, Jan. 30, 1903, upon recommendation by this class. Sunday School superintendents of recent years have been: Ira Shoop, 1942-44, and Robert Snyder, 1944-46. Mrs. Harry Snyder, Mrs. Ira Shoop, Harry Hartman, Mrs. Elmer Shoop, and Edward Shoop constitute the trustee board.

The congregation has been affiliated with the following circuits: Jacksonville, 1890-1919; Powell's Valley, 1919-1934; and Enders and Powell's Valley, 1934-46.

Union Deposit Church

This church like many others bears a place-name. The village in which it is located was laid out by Philip Wolfersberger, three years before the United Brethren Church was erected, and called Unionville. The place, however, soon after and since is known as Union Deposit. This arose from the fact of its being a deposit for much of the grain and other produce of the region, preparatory to its shipment on the canal by Mr. Wolfersberger, who owned several boats. For the sake of brevity, no doubt, the community, the church, and the circuit of which the church has been a part for many years, goes by the name, "Union".

Isaac Hershey, owner of a farm adjoining the Wolfersberger lots on the west also laid out lots on his land. He conveyed two of these lots, numbers, 15 and 16 consisting of 53 square perches to the trustees for the congregation, on May 29, 1848 for the sum of \$80. The senior preacher of the Dauphin Circuit, the Rev. David Gingrich Sr., was one of the trustees. The other two were: John Hoover and David Handshaw. Services were held under an oak tree standing on the church site and in brother Hoover's house for

some time before the house of worship was built. The Rev. Gingrich, who resided in Mt. Joy Township, east of Elizabethtown while he served the large Dauphin Circuit, died in the year 1849, about a year after the church was built. Isaac Hershey succeeded him as trustee.

The original building, constructed of brick in 1848, has served this congregation for almost one hundred years. An item in the quarterly conference minutes, dated Dec. 15, 1849, states that the cost of the building was \$1,350, of which amount \$285 remained unprovided for; and that Thomas Leshner, with the trustees would endeavor to raise that amount. Rev. Thomas Leshner was a minister in the East Pennsylvania Conference, having been ordained in 1847, he served several appointments in it, but withdrew in 1870 and affiliated with the United Christian Church. He lived about a mile north of Sand Beach, and was a local member of the Union Deposit class while connected with our denomination. George Landis, also a member of this class, was granted quarterly conference by it in 1850. He received annual conference license in 1852, but his membership ceased in 1869 without having been ordained.

Laymen active in official capacity in this congregation during the first twenty years of its history were: Isaac Hershey, John Hoover, David Handshaw, Jacob Killinger, George Spangler, Henry Horst, John Frantz, Samuel Martin, Charles Dasher, J. Breneman, Michael Louck, John Louck, Jonas Shartzler, Solomon Landis, Samuel Smith, Dr. D. C. Keller, and G. M. Mark. A class closely affiliated with Union Deposit and later absorbed by it was first known as "Leshner's," later as "Manadaville." The latter was once the name for the village of Sand Beach. Lay officials of this class were: Amos Clauser, Henry Reist, and John Yengst.

In recent years the interior of the church has been improved by the placing of hard wood floors, new carpet, replacing of clear glass in the windows by art glass, installation of electric lights, and by repapering and repainting. The exterior has been improved by repointing and painting the brick walls.

A. L. Landis was for many years one of the leading laymen, serving as class leader, trustee and delegate to annual conference. On the list of officers who have given many years of service in several capacities are: Uriah Fasnacht, Frank Stauffer, John Stahley, Frank Long, Stella Fasnacht Long, Mazie Seibert, William Long, and Harry Jones. The trustee board of the present consists of Arthur Howard, Wayne Blair, Harry Fasnacht, John Brown, and Harry Jones.

The names of ministers who preached in this church as regular pastors are those of the circuits named as follows, to which the church has been attached for the years indicated: Dauphin, 1848-53; Hummelstown, 1853-57; Dauphin-Hummelstown, 1857-58; Hummelstown, 1858-66; Union Deposit, 1866-93; Grantville, 1893-1901; Derry Church, 1901-04; and Union Deposit, 1904-46.

Williamstown Church

As nearly as can be ascertained, a preaching appointment was opened in Williamstown in the year 1871 by J. W. Kunkel, minister of the Lykens Circuit. Services were first held in a small building near the present church site and later in the Evangelical Church. John M. Blum, one of the founders of the town, sold lot number 74 in the town plan for the sum of \$250 to Benjamin Riegle of Mifflin Township, John Mattis and John Hoffman of Tower City and John Hawk and John Griner of Williamstown, trustees for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. A small frame church building was erected on said lot in 1877. The Rev. James Shoop, minister of Williams Valley Circuit, of which this church was a part, laid the cornerstone and dedicated the building.

The original structure was enlarged in 1931, conference superintendent Dr. S. C. Enck, laying the cornerstone for the annex November 22, and rededicating the house of worship January 31, 1932. In connection with the work of new construction, the interior of the original was rearranged, new oak pews were placed, and the interior and exterior repainted—total cost of the project was \$4,800. The following year, the Men's Bible Class purchased a new pulpit; the Friendly Bible Class, a new communion table; and the Wide Awake Society, a baptismal font.

In 1938 another building enterprise was begun. The cornerstone for the annex was laid by Dr. C. A. Mutch, August 13, 1939. This structure was of brick and the exterior walls of the previous structure were brick veneered. Expansion and reconstruction provided for additional Sunday School rooms, kitchen, boiler room, and other basement rooms. The cost was twelve thousand dollars. After much delay due to difficulties encountered in building operations, the work was completed and the building rededicated at the morning service, February 16, 1941 by Dr. Enck, Dr. C. A. Lynch preached at the evening service.

The Rev. W. G. Grosz was pastor during this more recent improvement of the house of worship. During his five-year ministry the parsonage was also improved and new installations were made; and fifty-six new members were received. The committee in charge of the 1939-41 building project was composed of Frank Shadel, William Ritzman, Harry Shammo, Raymond Adams, and John Kapp. Lay men and women who made up the official family in 1941 were: Norman Bixler, Alvin Reightler, Frank Miller, Robert Feaster, Mrs. Gordon Hoffman, Mrs. John Kapp, Mrs. Minnie Shadel, Mrs. Pearl Lubold, Mrs. Jacob Martz, Miss Elsie Peterson, Miss Clara Stauffer, Mrs. Harry Shomper, Miss Minnie Drum, Mrs. Howard Skelton, Miss Mildred Reinoehl, Mrs. William Burke, Mrs. Frank Miller, Mrs. Alvin Reightler, Miss Thelma Spittle, Miss Winifred Skelton, Philip Fetterhoff, Earl Wenrich, and Jacob Leshner.

Williamstown Church was affiliated with the following circuits: Lykens, 1871-73; Williams Valley, 1873-1884; and Lykens, 1884-90. Ministers serving the church since 1890 are as follows: J. P. Smith,



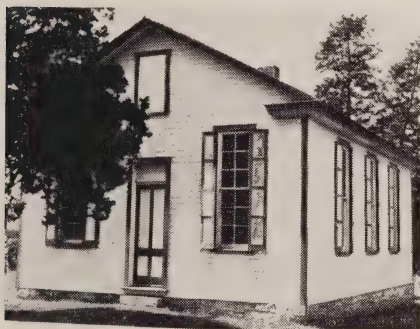
Williamstown Church

1890-91; C. A. Mutch 1891-94; Amos Lehman, 1894-97; S. B. Wengert, 1897-99; W. H. Uhler, 1899-1901; M. A. Salt, 1901-03; C. Wallace Miller, 1903-05; Thomas Garland, 1905-07; W. H. Royer, 1907-1911; R. E. Morgan, 1911-13; E. E. Bender, 1913-15; Clarence Mease, 1915-18; C. A. Sollenberger, 1918-19; C. S. Miller, 1919-23; Ira R. Fortna, 1923-24; Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1924-28; H. H. Miller, 1928-30; R. E. Morgan, 1930-35; M. M. Lewis, 1935-37; W. G. Grosz, 1937-42; C. C. Witmer, 1942-43; and Lloyd Beamesderfer, 1943-46.

Zion's Church, Halifax Township

When one takes a position on the summit of Peter's Mountain where the Dauphin-Halifax road crosses it, and looks northward, there stretches out before one a rolling country drained by the Powell's Creek flowing westerly into the Susquehanna River, which is in view to the left. In this valley are four United Brethren Churches: Zion's, on the Western edge of Halifax Township; Jacob's and Union in Wayne Township; and Trinity in Jefferson Township. Descending into the valley, and crossing the creek we come to the village of Matamoras. Before the days of Rural Free Delivery there was a post office in the village by the name of "Powell's Valley." Consequently the village is also known by that name.¹⁶ Along a fine macadam road, branching off westward in the village from the Dauphin-Halifax road, stands Zion's or Stone Church, on the south side of said road. Officially, in our conference records it is named, "Zion's," but because of the material of which it is constructed it has also been known as "Stone Church."

In these recent years the importance of the city congregation looms so large that a rural church away from the much-traveled highway fades almost into obscurity and insignificance. Zion's Church deserves a better fate. It has had and still has an enviable place in our conference. So far as its house of worship is concerned it has no equal within our bounds, being the oldest stone edifice in the conference. It was erected in about the year 1842, thirty-six by forty feet in size, of mountain stone of variegated buff and yellowish colors brought from Peter's Mountain. John Wolbert, a stone mason, who later became a member of the congregation, built the wall. After the passing of a century, it is as substantial as the day when erected and bids fair to remain so for many years. This temple of stone surrounded by shrubbery and trees might inspire the talent of the artist. In more recent years, during the ministry of the Rev. M. G. Sponsler, a vestibule was attached which matches the original structure perfectly both in symmetry and in materials used.



Ebenezer Church
(Halifax Township)



Zion's Church

Prior to the erection of the church, services were held in a public school building known as "Funk's," then standing on the north side of the road, opposite the site of the church lot. The class grew in numbers and prestige to the extent that arrangements were made to entertain the annual conference of the year 1842. No conference session had ever been held so far north. At that time the present Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania Conferences were still one conference.

It is quite likely that the holding of annual conference stimulated the work of the congregation, which soon thereafter set itself to the task of erecting a house of worship. The deed transferring eighty perches of land at a cost of ten dollars is dated, December, 1844. There are a number of instances where a deed was given for property after a church was built. It may have been so in this case. Since the conference session was held in the first month of the year 1842, the church may have been completed in the same year.

The trustees then serving the congregation: Henry Rouch, Henry Tyson, and Isaac Glace bought the land from the heirs of the John Funk estate. In addition to the families of the trustees, members of the Frank, Bobb, Baker, Mikles, Shammo, Meredith, Sweigard, Seiders, and Zearing families were then, or soon thereafter, members of the congregation.

Sometime later Henry Rouch donated a plot of ground, adjoining the original purchase, for use as a burial ground. His grandson, Henry Rouch Landis, was a trustee for many years. Isaac Glace and his family gave much time to the promotion of the congregation's interests. A son of Isaiah Glace, William Otterbein Glace, now eighty-nine years of age, related that in boyhood days he attended Funk's School during the week and on Sunday the services of the church across the road. Two Bowman brothers, Samuel and Michael, came to the valley in about 1838 and engaged in the milling trade. Samuel married Elizabeth Straw, a native of the valley, reared a large family, many of whom and their descendants have had, and still have, connections with the church. James Bowman now eighty-one years of age is treasurer of the trustee board. Lloyd Bowman served as a missionary in our African mission for eight years. Meade L. Bowman is serving in his twenty-third year as Sunday School superintendent. Trustees now serving are: S. B. Hoffman, president; S. M. Kemerer, secretary; James Bowman, treasurer; John Baker, and Earl Enders.

The congregation celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary during the week of September 12-18, 1943. Former pastors, and ministers licensed by the quarterlies held on the circuit, preached during the week. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, preached on Sunday afternoon of the 12th, and dedicated a recently placed mural painting. Prior to the anniversary celebration other improvements were made, all at a cost of \$375. S. B. Hoffman, who is a very active member of the church, read a paper on the history of the congregation. He served for some time as pastor in Allegheny Conference. The Rev. Harry E. Fogelman, pastor, directed the work of renovation and was in charge of the anniversary services. He had a very successful year on this circuit of eight churches, achieving material, financial, and spiritual gains at every church.

The pastors of Zion's Church are those who served the following circuits and stations: Dauphin Circuit, 1842-43; Halifax Circuit, 1843-73; Halifax Station, 1873-75; Jacksonville Circuit, 1875-77; Halifax Station, 1877-1906; Jacksonville Circuit, 1906-1919; Powell's Valley Circuit, 1919-33; and Enders and Powell's Valley Circuit, 1934-46.

4. Classes and Churches No Longer Existing.

Information on classes which were attached to local churches or absorbed by them is given under said churches. There follows a brief statement on those which have been disbanded. With but few exceptions the location of each could be definitely described, but the subject does not warrant lengthy descriptions of locations. In order to avoid repetition of name

of township, they are grouped according to the township in which they are located.

East Hanover Township:

Manada Furnace Class was an appointment on Hummelstown Circuit from 1854 to 1859. D. Oakum was its leader and steward. The Furnace stood near the Manada Creek, about a mile southwest of the gap known as Manada Gap.

St. Paul's Church stood in the Fishing Creek Valley, across the South Mountain, northeast of Manada Gap. The class, when organized January 10, 1875 was known as "Neidig's Fishing Creek Class." Jacob Capp and wife Mary sold an acre of ground for the sum of fifteen dollars for a church site, by indenture dated November 21, 1877. A frame house of worship, twenty-four by thirty-two feet in dimension was erected in 1876. The trustees were Daniel Neidig, Henry Neidig, and Christian Capp. An active organization was maintained until 1931. In 1932 the trustees agreed to sell the building. The immediately following session of annual conference authorized John Neidig, one of the remaining trustees to dispose of the property. Due to the extension westward of the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation the region became entirely depopulated. Those still holding membership transferred to other churches.

Hoernerstown, Salem Church. For more than forty years, the United Brethren had a class organization in or near Hoernerstown. It first comes to notice as an appointment on Hummelstown Circuit in the year 1849. Ground was purchased in 1862 for the sum of fifty dollars. Michael Overcash, David Shaffner, and Jacob Hershey were trustees for the property. The church was erected on this ground located at the eastern end of the village. George Blough, Martin Hershey, John M. Sheek, Michael Keller, Benjamin Klein, Jacob Klein were among its official members. Its members transferred to Union Deposit Church about 1893. The class was attached to the following Circuits: Dauphin, Hummelstown, Grantville and Union Deposit.

South Hanover Township:

Manadaville Class. The village of Sand Beach, two miles northwest of Hershey, was earlier called Manadaville. John Hoffer, David Keller, Joseph Lauch, M. Lauch, Henry Reist, Thomas Bomgardner, John Yiengst, and John Keller are listed as officers of the class during the years 1859-69.

Hanover Class receives mention periodically over the years 1858 to 1874. Whether it was the same class appearing under other names, and where located, has not been ascertained. It was attached to Hummelstown Circuit in 1858, and to Union Deposit Circuit in 1874.

West Hanover Township:

Forney's Schoolhouse Class. Forney's Schoolhouse stood along a country road running north of and parallel to the Manada Hill-Linglestown Road. John Look was the chief promoter of the class which met there. It was reorganized from time to time, and was also known as West Hanover Class. It is first mentioned in 1849, and continued under several names until 1877.

Fishing Creek Class (not the same as St. Paul's in East Hanover) makes its appearance on authentic records, first in 1864. Joseph Zeiders, William Zeiders, Peter Patrick, and Rudolph Baker were its officers.

Bomgardner's Schoolhouse Class absorbed the two classes just mentioned. In 1872 the quarterly conference of the charge named Rudolph Baker, Alfred Potteiger, Joseph Lingle, Jesse Lenker, and John Look as trustees to build a house of worship in the vicinity of Forney's Schoolhouse. This action was not carried out. In 1882 Amos Paul, William H. Hotz, and Alfred Potteiger were elected trustees for the Bomgardner's Class. Whether their duty was to make arrangements with the school directors for use of the school building, or to take steps to erect a house of worship is not stated. The schoolhouse was located on the north side of the South Mountain along

the road passing through Heckert's Gap to Fishing Creek Valley. In 1881 there were forty names on the church roll—the names of Potteiger, Zeiders, Shatzer, Paul, Hotz, Baker, Foust, Riegle, Mumma, Peters, Strohm, etc. appearing thereon. It is last mentioned in 1888.

Shope's Schoolhouse Class and **Keefer's Schoolhouse Class** may have been the same. The former appears on the record in 1860 and the latter in 1861.

Londonderry Township:

Swatara Hill Class was the name for an appointment attached to Lancaster Circuit in 1861, and to Highspire in 1863. The class was attached to Union Deposit Circuit in 1869, to Swatara Circuit in 1875, to Conewago Circuit in 1880, and to Hillsdale in 1901. It is last mentioned as a point on Hillsdale Circuit in 1917. Where services were held during its early period is not known. In later years a Union Church was built at Swatara Hill, formerly Rocktown, and the United Brethren Class worshipped in it.

Detweiler's Class met in Detweiler's Schoolhouse. For the early work there refer to Geyer's Church. A new class was later organized. It was attached to Middletown, and as late as 1890, is mentioned as being taken from Fishburn's and again attached to Middletown.

Lower Paxton Township:

Brown's Schoolhouse Class was in existence prior to 1849 and continued to function over more than two decades. The schoolhouse was located along the Harrisburg-Jonestown Road, a short distance east of the road leading north to Linglestown. At times this class was also known as Levan's Class. It had Peter K. Levan, Christian Reist Sr., Abraham Shope, William Hoffnagle, Jesse Lenker, Christian Reist Jr., George Look, and William Bolton as officers. Its attachment to circuits was the same as that of Linglestown.

Wiley's Class is mentioned as forming part of the reconstructed Dauphin Circuit in the year 1853.

Gilgrist's Schoolhouse Class was in 1869 an appointment on Harrisburg Circuit. The building was located two miles west of Linglestown.

Fox's Schoolhouse Class is named in 1877 as being taken from Linglestown Circuit and added to Harrisburg Circuit.

Runkle's Class. There were possibly three classes by this name: one that was later absorbed by Grantville; the second, in the vicinity of Linglestown; and the third, that which had David Runkle as its leader and was identical with Rockville.

Mifflin Township:

Uniontown or Pillow Church. At a quarterly held September 13, 1847 Jonathan Shaffer, John Buffington, and Conrad G. Geist were appointed trustees to erect a church building. Joseph Kratzer sold lot No. 85 in the town plan, fronting on Chestnut Street in Uniontown, in the year 1848 to the above named trustees. The church was erected in that year. It was attached to the Northumberland Circuit at the time. In 1852 it was attached to Halifax Circuit and in 1874 to Lykens Circuit. Jacob Kratzer and J. Dawson, together with the above named trustees held various official positions. The Rev. William Motter was member of this class. He entered annual conference in 1844, was ordained in 1848, and transferred to White River Conference in 1857. The Rev. Conrad G. Geist also was licensed when a member of this church. He received annual license in 1847, was ordained in 1853, and traveled several years as an itinerant. On account of ill health he had to ask for local relation. He assisted ministers on the local circuit whenever he could. A new church was erected in 1886. It does not appear on the list of appointments or on a charge after 1929.

Washington Township:

Loyalton Class. In 1896 a new class was reported to have been organized at Loyalton. It was attached to Elizabethtown Station.

Notes

1. See W. R. Strickland—"Life of Jacob Gruber," for a most fascinating account of this rather eccentric preacher.
2. *Reminiscences*, p. 106.
3. *Ibid*, p. 170.
4. Concerning this schoolmaster, Boehm, on another page writes: "I had a common school education. The old schoolhouse, and my old schoolmaster, Henry Rosman, I well remember. He went from house to house, and it was a great occasion when he came to my father's house to board. He came from Hesse Cassel, and was one of the Hessian soldiers taken prisoner at Trenton, New Jersey."
5. See biography of John Hershey, pp. 50, 51.
6. The Rev. John Winebrenner was a minister in regular standing of the German Reformed Church, and pastor of the Salem or First Reformed Church in Harrisburg from October 1820 to March 1823. Owing to views and practices held by him not in harmony with the Reformed Church, he became alienated from the Synod, which in 1828 erased his name from the list of its members. In the year 1830, July 4th, Bishop Jacob Erb of the United Brethren Church rebaptized him in the waters of the Susquehanna, and in the same year he organized the "Church of God." In the same year he also visited the session of the United Brethren Annual Conference and was voted an advisory seat.
7. Mr. Riley here mentioned is the Rev. James Ross Reily, who also was a minister of the German Reformed Church.
(See "*American Church History Series*," Vol. VIII., pps. 353, 354)
8. The annual conference supported the policy of our Publishing House to select a Book Agent whose duty it was to handle its own and other publications and collect for same.
9. Egle—"History of Dauphin County," p. 341.
10. Unfortunately there is no transfer on record as is the case of the Light's Meeting-house at Lebanon, and the Shirk's Meetinghouse in West Hanover Township, Lebanon County. If there were, it is reasonably certain that the word, "Impartial" would have been employed. (See sketch of Lebanon Salem and Shirk's Churches.) There is a tradition that the Spring Creek Meeting-house was erected, "That all denominations might have a place of worship."
11. Henry Landis of Derry Township and Henry Breneman of Donegal Township, administrators of the estate of Christian Bear, deceased, sold this property, a farm of 124 acres and four perches, to Adam Riegel, April 1, 1805. The farm house is still standing on a knoll immediately south of the Water Company buildings. Christian Landis mentioned in the above sketch later bought the property. For a fuller account of Riegel, see his biography, pp. 60, 61.
12. From an account by Nevin W. Moyer of Linglestown which he read at a service in this church, August 13, 1933.
13. Only those activities of the Rev. Neidig which deal specifically with his work at Oberlin are noted in this connection. Biographical facts, and statements concerning his wider interests appear on other pages of this volume.
14. Drury, pps. 363-364.
15. Dr. William H. Egle, who gave the later years of his life to historical research and writing, evidently had access to this manuscript. The account was published (1879-92) in Mr. Egle's "*Notes and Queries, Historical and Genealogical*," IIIrd Series, Volume 2, page 391 and following.
16. In the conference records the spelling is "Powl's," but county histories and the Atlas of 1875 give "Powell's."

Chapter VII

THE CHURCHES OF LEBANON COUNTY

1. The Circuits of Lebanon County, 1840-1946.

Lebanon Circuit, constituted in 1840, was the third to be carved out of the original Lancaster Circuit. It embraced all the classes and preaching appointments in Lebanon County, and until 1843, some beyond the county boundry to the east and northeast. The missionary visits of our pioneers, the influence of the Great Meetings, and the more intense labors of Abraham Troxel, Martin Kreider, and Felix Light, natives of the county, laid the foundations for the United Brethren in Christ Church in Lebanon County. John Neidig and Martin Boehm of two neighboring counties made specific contributions to the work in this county. With Christian Newcomer on his journeys came such men as George A. Geeting of Maryland, Daniel Strickler and Christian Crum of Virginia, and Joseph Hoffman of Cumberland County.

References to Newcomer's work in this area will be given in the sketches of local churches. The overall picture can be seen by tracing his customary routes. Coming from Lancaster, he would first meet appointments in and about Schaefferstown, then move on to Philip Breidenstein's and John Zinn's, then through Myerstown out to and beyond Mt. Aetna to the Zeller homes. His itinerary next took him to the Shuey and Sherk homes in Bethel Township, to the Abraham Troxel house in North Lebanon Township, and to the Felix Light and Martin Kreider homes near Lebanon. From Lebanon westward he passed through Millerstown (Annville) to the Shenk and Ellenberger residences in North Annville. From Annville he followed the Gravel Hill road, stopped for a meeting at Christian Nafzinger's, and continuing in the same general course, came to the Snyder house just across the Swatara Creek in the vicinity of Bindnagle's Lutheran Church. Along these routes one might see this solitary figure jogging along on horseback with open Bible before him casting living bread to hungry souls. Itinerants of a later day followed the trail he blazed.

A half century passes before we come to a period of which we have figures to estimate something of the achievements of these itinerants. Lebanon Circuit and Lebanon Station, embracing all the organizations in the county in the year 1848-49, had a total of 517 members distributed among thirty-three classes. John A. Sand served the station, and Christian Peffley and David Hoffman the circuit, and their combined salary was \$518.76. From these meager beginnings rose nineteen charges composed of thirty-one churches, having a total membership of 6,595 in this year of our Lord 1946.

The circuits in the order of their formation and the years during which they continued are as follows:

Lebanon (1), 1840-1863; Myerstown, 1849-1886; Annville, 1855-1878; Jonestown (1), 1862-1866; Bellegrove (1), 1863-1882; Schaefferstown (1) 1869-1871; Lebanon (2), 1871-1940; Jonestown (2), 1871-1903; Schaefferstown (2), 1873-1874; Avon, 1878-1898 Grantville,¹ 1882-1889; Bellegrove (2) 1889-1946; Schaefferstown (3) 1889-1893; Lebanon (English)² 1893-1899; Lickdale (1), 1903-1906; Iona, 1903-1918; Jonestown (3), 1906-1946; Lickdale (2), 1922-1946; Campbelltown, 1925-1946.

The alphabetic order of circuits, years continued and ministerial appointments are as follows:

Annville Circuit, 1855-1878 (See under Annville Church).

Avon Circuit, 1878-1898 (See under Avon Church).

Bellegrove Circuit, (1) 1863-82: Henry Schropp, 1863-64; Andrew Steigerwalt, 1864-66; Henry Schropp and H. H. Gelbach, 1866-67; David Moyer and G. D. A. Garman, 1867-68; David Moyer, Andrew Steigerwalt, and G. D. A. Garman, 1868-69; John Binkley and William Dissinger, 1869-70; John Binkley and S. V. Mohn, 1870-71; Simon Noll, 1871-73; Job Light, 1873-74; Joel Light, 1874-76; John Binkley, 1876-78; S. V. Mohn, Henry Schropp, 1878-79; B. K. Keck, 1879-82.

Bellegrove Circuit (2), 1889-1946; H. W. Zimmerman, 1889-1891; Gottlieb Myer, 1891-93; C. S. Miller, 1893-94; M. H. Jones, 1894-97; J. R. Blecher, 1897-99; P. L. Hains, 1899-1901; D. D. Buddinger, H. F. Rhoad, 1901-03; D. D. Buddinger, 1903-06; Jacob P. Smith, 1906-07; P. M. Holdeman, 1907-11; P. L. Hains, 1911-13; C. R. Longenecker, 1913-15; E. E. Bender, 1915-21; I. B. Koons, 1921-27; I. R. Fortna, 1927-28; C. A. Mutch, 1928-30; S. G. Haas, 1930-32; C. R. Swartz, 1932-43; and W. E. Sherrieff, 1943-46.

Campbelltown Circuit, 1925-1946. (See under Campbelltown Church).

Grantville Circuit, 1882-1889. (See under list of Dauphin County Circuits.)

Iona Circuit, 1903-1918; J. R. Blecher, 1903-05; F. J. Butterwick, 1905-07; Jacob P. Smith, 1907-08; Charles Bauer, 1908-09; Jacob P. Smith, 1909-10; C. Wallace Miller, 1910-13; C. Wallace Miller, M. A. Wagner, 1913-14; R. E. Morgan, 1914-16; C. W. Rothermal, 1916-17; W. E. Shoop, 1917-18.

Jonestown Circuit (1), 1862-66; Simon Noll, 1862-65; and Henry Schropp, 1865-66.

Jonestown Circuit (2), 1871-1903; Samuel Etter Jr., 1871-74; S. V. Mohn, J. H. Unger, 1874-75; John Binkley, 1875-76; Joel Light, 1876-79; J. H. Unger, 1879-80, Samuel Etter Jr., 1880-81; Simon Noll, 1881-82; B. K. Keck, 1882-84; Gottlieb Myer, 1884-86; F. J. Butterwick 1886-91; R. S. Arndt, 1891-95; H. W. Zimmerman, 1895-98; F. J. Butterwick, 1898-1901; and W. H. Boyer, 1901-03.

Jonestown Circuit (3), 1906-46; O. G. Romig, 1906-08; R. E. Morgan, 1908-11; G. A. Richie, D. E. Young, 1911-12; D. E. Young, O. R. Brooks, 1912-13; D. E. Young, G. L. Blough, 1913-14; W. W. Fridinger, 1914-16; W. H. Kachel, 1916-17; Harry Crim, 1918-19; E. E. Miller, 1919-21; A. J. D. Shoemaker, 1921-22; P. M. Holdeman, 1922-25; Clarence Mease R. G. Uhrich, 1925-26; R. G. Uhrich, 1926-32; E. T. Uhler, 1932-39; H. C. Mathias, 1939-41; Herbert Blough, 1941-42; Herbert Blough, Philip Strickler, 1942-43; and Philip Strickler, 1943-46.

Lebanon Circuit (1), 1840-63; Jacob Roop, 1840-41; Philip Fry and Christian Peffley, 1841-42; Samuel Enterline, 1842-43; Samuel Enterline and Henry Esensy, 1943-44; John A. Sand and Simon Noll, 1844-45; John A. Sand, and Casper Light, 1845-46; Henry Staub and Gideon Smith, 1846-47; Henry Staub and Henry Schropp, 1847-48; Christian Peffley and David Hoffman, 1848-49; Jacob Sholler and David Hoffman 1849-50; John Stamm and Jacob Sholler, Christian Kauffman, 1850-51; John Stamm and Henry Loose, 1851-52; George Smith and Henry Loose, 1852-53; John A. Sand and George Smith, 1853-54; Andrew Steigerwalt and Jeremiah Jacobs, 1854-55; Henry Loose, 1855-56; John Lowery, and G. A. Mark, Henry Schropp, 1856-57; Jacob Doerkson and Jacob Runk, 1857-59; H. E. Hackman and David M. Kauffman, 1859-60; H. E. Hackman, 1860-61; H. E. Hackman and Lewis Fleisher, 1861-62; and Henry Schropp, 1862-63.

Lebanon Circuit (2), 1871-1940; S. V. Mohn, 1871-72; Joel Light, 1872-74; H. H. Gelbach, 1874-76; H. H. Gelbach, J. W. Boughter, 1876-77; Simon Noll, George Shindler, 1877-78; Simon Noll, 1878-80; Lewis Fleisher, 1880-81; John Binkley, 1881-82; Joel Light, 1882-85; B. H. Keck, 1885-88; F. H. Ruloff, 1888-89; Amos Lehman, 1889-94; Joel Light, 1894-1901; F. J. Butterwick, 1901-11; J. M. Leister, 1911-12; H. E. Schaeffer, 1912-15; M. V. Fridinger, 1915-16; N. I. Fake, 1916-17; H. K. Geyer, 1917-19; H. H. Fertig, S. H. Waltz, 1919-20; S. H. Waltz, 1920-25; G. W. Hess, 1925-26; T. J. Barnhart, 1926-32; William G. Blatt, 1932-33; G. Edgar Hertzler, 1933-37; and Grant N. Miller, 1937-40.

Lebanon (English) Circuit, 1893-99; J. B. Daugherty, 1893-96; J. W. Boughter, 1896-98; and L. R. Kramer, 1898-99.

Lickdale Circuit (1), 1903-06; R. S. Arndt, 1903-04; and H. H. Hoffer, 1904-06.

Lickdale Circuit (2), 1922-46; Conrad Curry, 1922-30; M. E. Patrick, 1930-32; J. A. Keiper, I. B. Koons, 1932-33; C. A. Mutch, 1933-34; A. S. Lick, 1934-38; Warren L. Strickler, 1938-40; R. H. Mowrey, 1940-42; Lloyd Crall, 1942-43; Robert Crist, 1943-44; Ira Keperling, 1944-45; and Ira Keperling, Harry J. P. Himmelberger, 1945-46.

Myerstown Circuit, 1849-68. (See under Myerstown Church).

Schaefferstown Circuit (1), 1869-71; J. D. A. Garman, 1869-70, and J. D. A. Garman, George Stoll, 1870-71.

Schaefferstown Circuit (2), 1873-74; George Shindler, 1873-74.

Schaefferstown Circuit (3), 1889-93; H. M. Miller 1889-91; W. H. Artz, 1891-92; and A. M. Hackman, 1892-93.

2. The Churches of Lebanon County

Annville—"The College Church."

According to the most authentic information available, the Annville class was organized in 1823 by the Rev. Jacob Erb. Two years later a stone church 46x55 feet in size was erected on the northeast corner of Queen Street and Mill Alley. It was then known as "Herr's Meeting House." This stone church was the second oldest church building erected by and for United Brethren east of the Susquehanna River. The original deed, dated December 8, 1826, states that the lot on which the church had already been erected, was sold by Abraham Herr and wife Elizabeth for the consideration of one dollar to Samuel Shenk and Rudolph Herr, trustees.

Abraham Herr, grantor named in the deed, was the son of Abraham Herr who with his wife Anna Reist came from those sections of Lancaster County where United Brethrenism had its earliest and deepest roots. Abraham Herr Sr. was the first of his family to settle in the vicinity of Annville. Abraham Herr and Anna Reist Herr had six children, viz.: Henry, Abraham, Samuel, Christian, Rudolph, and Anna. Of these sons, Abraham, who was married to Elizabeth Ensminger, was the grantor named in the deed. Another son Rudolph, was one of the grantees. The other grantee, Samuel Shenk, was married to Anna Herr the daughter of this family. Abraham Herr Sr. was in turn the son of Henry Herr and wife Esther Hershey. Through the maternal or Hershey side of the family, Abraham Herr Sr. was a first cousin to Christian Herr of Manor Township at whose home three early annual conference sessions were held. He was also a first cousin to the Reverends Abraham and Christian Hershey, and a first cousin also to Elizabeth Hershey the mother of Bishop Jacob Erb.

Joseph Shenk, probably Samuel's father, lived on a farm which bordered on the north bank of the Quittaphilla Creek, about a mile west of Annville. He was a local preacher for the United Brethren. Bishop Newcomer made friendly visits to his home over the years 1809-1824. Brother Shenk is listed among those ministers present at the annual conference of the year 1833, which according to conference minutes met in the "Meeting House at Millerstown," this being the earlier name for the town of Annville. In the report of the 1838 session, appearing in the May 30, 1838 issue of *The Religious Telescope* we find the statement: "Joseph Shenk of near Millerstown, Pennsylvania, died during the year."

From the time of its founding the Annville Church remained attached to Lancaster Circuit until 1840, in which year it was attached to Lebanon Circuit. In 1842-43, Lebanon and Annville formed one charge and John Light was the minister. For the following twelve years Annville Church was affiliated with Lebanon Circuit. During the period 1848-1853, the following names appear on official rosters:



Annville Church

Abraham Herr, John Troxel, Samuel Achenbach, Christian Hoverter, Peter Reist, Martin Kauffman, Christian Lessley, John Seabolt, Peter Graybill, Israel Gruber, P. Miller, C. Miller, Rudolph Herr, and John Stroh.

On April 12, 1852, the church was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania by the Common Pleas Court of Lebanon County. The trustees who secured this charter were Israel Gruber, Martin Kauffman, and Rudolph Herr. In 1855 Annville charge was constituted, consisting of Annville and Brightbill's churches, and Gingrich's and Campbelltown appointments. The trustees at Annville from 1855 to 1876 were Rudolph Herr, Israel Gruber, and Peter Graybill, except that in 1871 Daniel Gingrich was elected in the

place of Israel Gruber. During the same period official names appearing frequently on the records, in addition to those already named, are John Kinports, Samuel Ellenberger, Isaac and Christopher Miller, George Richards, Jacob Haldeman, Jonathan Herr, John Farnsler, H. H. Kreider, David Kreider, Isaac Brandt, and Isaac Baker.

In order to have a more advantageous location, action was taken by the quarterly conference held on April 24, 1858, authorizing the trustees to make efforts to build a new church. The site selected was on Annville's Main Street at Market Square. A new brick church 45x71 feet, consisting of a main auditorium and a basement, was erected in 1861. The stone of the first church were used in the foundation of the second church, and the bell of the old church was placed in the tower of the new one. The cost was \$15,000. The three trustees, Rudolph Herr, Peter Graybill and Israel Gruber, with the addition of John H. Kinports and John K. Moyer, composed the Building Committee. The last time this church was remodeled, 1891, a one-story frame structure, 42x23 feet, was added to house the children of the Sunday School. Bishop David Edwards dedicated the new church, January 12, 1862. A Möller Pipe Organ was installed in 1904. A gift of \$1,000 was received from Andrew Carnegie, and \$500 was contributed by the Mite Society and the Choir toward its cost. This building is now the Roman Catholic Church.

The Annville congregation took a decided advanced step when in 1910 plans were laid to erect its third house of worship. On November 9th of that year quarterly conference approved purchase of the C. V. Henry property and a lot owned by Lebanon Valley College on the northwest corner of Main Street and College Avenue. On April 14th, 1911, plans and specifications for the new church were submitted and construction was begun. The cornerstone was laid August 20, 1911, and the temple of worship was dedicated November 17, 1912 by the Rev. W. R. Funk, publishing agent, during the second pastorate of the Rev. H. B. Spayd. Members of the building committee were the following: H. L. Kinports, Maurice E. Brightbill, Charles M. Coover, and the trustees, John S. Shope, Alvin Kettering, and H. Clay Deaner. The total cost of the building was \$75,000.

This building 81 x 113 feet, constructed of King of Prussia marble, with a high massive tower, is outstanding in our conference as well as in our denomination as an example of the best there is in church architecture. On the south side is a large marble tablet bearing the inscription: "United Brethren Church, Erected to the Glory of God. 'Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is Holy.' Ps. 99:5." The interior is after the "Akron plan," and has a seating capacity for approximately 1500. Among its many beautiful art windows are two flanking the main sanctuary: the one on the west wall depicts the resurrection scene; the one on the east wall, the Gethsemane experience.

The bell which hung in the tower of the original stone church, later in the brick church, now hangs in the tower of the present church. In 1929 a set of sixteen Deagan Tower Chimes weighing more than six tons, and an Electric Tower Chimes Player were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Coover, in memory of their respective parents, Dr. and Mrs. William H. Coover and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Kreider. The pipe organ which had been moved from the second church and installed in the present church was replaced by a new Three Manual Midmer Losch Organ which cost \$9,000, and the exchange value of the old Moller Organ. In 1939 a Schulmerich Sound System and Electronic Hearing Aids were installed in memory of Dr. Paul S. Wagner, Professor of Mathematics in Lebanon Valley College, by his widow.

Annville congregation was the first in our conference to provide a parsonage. The quarterly conference of Lebanon Circuit, August 24, 1849 took the following action: "That trustees, Reist, Hoverter, and Herr of the Meeting House at Millerstown shall be trustees of the house which shall be bought from A. Herr for the purpose of a dwelling house for their preacher." This house is said to have stood on Queen Street, and to have cost \$600. In 1884 the second parsonage was built on Market Square. It remained the home of the pastors of this congregation until 1920, when it was sold for \$2,500.25. The present manse standing on the southeast corner of College Avenue and Maple Street was purchased November 14, 1920 at a cost of \$8,250. In 1914 part of the north porch was enclosed to enlarge the pastor's study. Improvements were also made in the kitchen and dining room. The total cost was about \$4,000.

A Missionary Society was organized July 1, 1842, and in 1874 the local Women's Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. DeLong. About the same time a Gleaner's Band was organized by Mrs. C. M. Coover. The Mite Society (Ladies' Aid) was organized by Mrs. H. H. Kreider, Mrs. Joseph Kreider, Katie Heisey and the pastor's wife, Mrs. Speck. The first Sunday School was organized in 1846. The pastor, L. W. Craumer reported to annual conference of the year 1866 that his school "had collected \$47.00 for Sunday School purposes on our Mission in East Tennessee." In a report to the quarterly conference December 4, 1869 of Sunday School work, J. H. Kinports is mentioned as superintendent of the main school and H. H. Kreider of the Infant school.

Since 1916 this congregation has supported a medical missionary in China. Miss Regina M. Bigler, M. D., was its representative until 1937, when she passed to her crowning in the land where she had given many years of self-sacrificing service. After her death, Frank Oldt, M. D., was chosen as the parish's representative to carry on work of medical missions. During World War II he was the only missionary in China from our denomination.

Under the direction of Miss Anna E. Kreider whose leadership began in 1924, the volunteer choir has been giving faithful and distinctive service. Concerts rendered each year, at a Candlelight Service on the Sunday preceding Christmas and at Palm Sunday

vespers, are outstanding musical events in the Lebanon Valley. Almost without exception every available space is occupied on these occasions and the mood of the worshipper is greatly stimulated in adoration and praise by the setting created by the trained art of the professional decorator.

The congregation and pastors of "The College Church" have always taken a vital interest in the welfare of Lebanon Valley College. The facilities of the new church lend themselves to the holding of special college functions for which the college itself has no other provision. Commencement Exercises are always held in the church sanctuary. Numerous other public exercises are held in it. Meetings of a social nature find the church dining room and kitchen well-fitted for use which the several occasions demand. The members of the church have been generous in the financial support of this institution of learning; to the extent that individual and collective contributions from this church total more than those of any other congregation.

One of the most distinguished sons of the Gospel Ministry in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ is the Reverend William A. Wilt, D. D., pastor of the Annville Church since January 1, 1935. He exceeds all other pastors of the congregation in the length of pastoral service given to this College Church, and in length of pastoral service to any college church in our denomination. He was born in Chapman Township, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1888. While engaged in teaching public school he heard the call to the Gospel Ministry and was licensed to preach at a quarterly conference held on the home charge, March 2, 1912, by the Rev. J. S. Fulton. On September 13, 1913 the Rev. Wilt was granted annual conference license. At the conference of 1915, held at Mt. Pleasant Church, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, he was ordained to full orders by Bishop William Weekley. He continued educational preparation by taking courses in Susquehanna University, and a full course in Bonebrake Theological Seminary. He served in Virginia Conference: Harrisonburg Church, 1915-16; Keyser Church, 1916-28; and First Church, Martinsburg, 1928-35. This conference received his transfer of membership at its session in 1936. He is held in high esteem by the members of his parish; and by the president, faculty, and students of the college.

Persons who compose the official board of the Church are: trustees of the church and parsonage property, E. D. Williams, D. G. Brandt, (Emeritus), S. O. Grimm, D. K. Shroyer, Mrs. C. M. Coover, and W. H. Kreamer; heads and treasurers of church organizations: J. Gordan Starr, Mrs. Andrew Bender, Harry Miller, W. H. Kreamer, John S. Light, S. O. Grimm, Mrs. P. A. W. Wallace, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnhart, Clara Reese, Kathleen Starr, Mrs. S. O. Grimm, Mrs. C. A. Lynch, Florence Barnhart, James Miller, Mrs. Russell Wert, J. A. Witmeyer, and Fred Kreider.

For two brief periods the college chapel was constituted a pastoral charge, and annual conference appointed the following ministers to serve it: J. W. Schriber, J. G. Aikman, 1873-74; J. W. Schriber,

1874-75, W. S. Walker, 1875-76; W. S. Walker, D. E. DeLong, Daniel Eberly, 1876-77; Isaiah L. Kephart, 1877-78. In 1887, I. W. Sneath was appointed, but soon resigned and the chapel appointment was dropped.

Ministers who served the Annville Church from 1855 onward are: Andrew Steigerwalt, 1855-57; Henry E. Hackman, 1857-59; James G. Fritz, 1859-60; John Lowery, 1860-62; John Russel, 1862-64; Ludwig W. Craumer, 1864-67; George W. Hoffman, Ezekiel Light, 1867-68; Jeremiah P. Smith, 1868-69; Jacob H. Mark, 1869-70; Martin J. Mumma, 1870-71; Ezekial Light, 1871-72; Isaiah Potter, George A. Mark Jr., 1872-73; Joseph Young Jr., 1873-75; Joseph R. Meredith, 1875-78; John K. Fisher, 1878-83; D. Speck, 1883-85; Joseph R. Meredith, 1885-89; D. D. Lowery, 1889-1890; H. B. Spayd, 1890-94; Martin J. Mumma, 1894-97; D. S. Eshleman, 1897-1900; J. T. Shaffer, 1900-03; W. J. Zuck, 1903-08; H. B. Spayd, 1908-13; Alvin E. Shroyer, 1913-14; S. F. Daugherty, 1914-19; I. E. Runk, 1919-24; J. A. Lyter, 1924-25; J. A. Lyter, R. R. Butterwick, G. A. Richie, 1925-26; J. Owen Jones, 1926-34; and W. A. Wilt, 1935-46.

Avon Zion Church.

This church was the outgrowth of a class of Lebanon Salem's members who lived in the vicinity of Avon. Services were usually held in the home of Joseph Light, a local minister of the class. At a quarterly conference held at Salem Church, July 16, 1870, trustees were appointed to procure a location for a house of worship—they were Michael Kreider, Joseph Light, and James Benson, local residents, and the Reverends J. B. Daughtery and H. H. Gelbach. One year later Salem Church promised to give financial support as soon as the class began building operations. The class was made an appointment on the Lebanon Circuit of the East German Conference in 1871 and the Reverend S. V. Mohn was appointed to serve the charge.

Philip Schaeffer, Michael Kreider (C. S.), Joseph Light, James Benson, Jacob Loser, and Peter Rauch composed the second trustee board. This board bought a lot 50 x 100 feet fronting on the north side of the highway, costing \$300, on which a frame church was erected in the year 1872. A parsonage was erected in the years 1885-86. The second house so used was purchased in 1892. It stands next to the church on its west.

A new frame church building, costing about \$5,000 was erected in 1893 during the pastorate of the Reverend Jacob H. Mark. Ten years later improvements were made to the structure costing approximately \$1,000 and a new pipe organ, a gift from Mr. Andrew Carnegie, was installed.

During the Reverend H. E. Schaeffer's pastorate the Church and Sunday School had such increase that more and better facilities became imperative. A new brick Sunday School building, 60 x 60 feet in size, was erected as an annex to the original building, providing for a total seating capacity of 550. Erection of the new building and renovation of the sanctuary cost \$32,485. The cornerstone

of the annex was laid by Dr. H. E. Miller, May 23, 1920, and it was dedicated April 10, 1921 by Bishop William M. Bell, Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, preaching the morning sermon on the day of dedication, and Bishop Bell in the evening. During the week following, the guest preachers were, B. F. Daugherty, I. E. Runk, H. E. Miller, P. B. Gible, I. M. Hershey, E. O. Burtner, and M. B. Spayd. The building committee consisted of pastor Schaeffer, S. J. B. Spangler, a local contractor and builder, J. R. Snyder, J. L. Lentz, William Saltzer, Noah Light, David Umberger, Henry G. Neidig, Jacob O. Lentz, and Samuel Waltz. At the time the church membership numbered 310 and the Sunday School enrollment 507. Improvements were made on these buildings in 1937, consisting of exterior painting, refrescoing, laying new carpet, etc., costing \$2,700. Reopening services were held August 22, with Bishop G. D. Batdorf and Dr. Enck delivering messages.

The Sunday School was organized April 28, 1876, when the following were elected to office; president, the Reverend H. H. Gelbach; vice president, the Reverend J. W. Boughter; secretary, Nimord Light; superintendent, Cyrus Smith; assistant superintendent Seth Light; librarians, John Dissinger and John Shaak; and lookout committee, Joseph Light, Peter Rauch, C. Fernsler, Mrs. John Dissinger, Emma Strohm, and Mrs. Daub. The names of fifty-nine persons were proposed as members of the new "Sunday School Association," as it was then called. Among these were Henry B. and Maurice B. Spayd, who were later licensed and ordained by this annual conference.

The Reverend Henry B. Spayd, D. D., was ordained in 1884. Among the pastorates held in East Pennsylvania was the college church at Annville which he served from 1890 to 1894, and from 1908 to 1913. In 1914 he transferred to the California Conference. The Reverend Maurice B. Spayd, D. D., was ordained in 1888 and served Jacksonville Circuit, Grantville Circuit, Highspire and Halifax churches in East Pennsylvania. From 1893-97 he served charges in Miami Conference. In 1896 he transferred to Illinois Conference and had pastorates at Decatur, Chicago, and Springfield, Illinois, and had three years—1907-10—in the presiding eldership. From 1917 to 1920 he was minister of the church at Wichita, Kansas. He returned to East Pennsylvania and served Reading Zion, Iona, and Hopeland.

The complete list of superintendents of the Avon Sunday School is as follows: Cyrus Smith, 1867-77; John Bechtold, 1877-78; Cyrus Smith, 1878-93; Stephen A. Light, 1893-97; Seth Light Jr., 1897-1901; Grant Light, 1901-07; Aaron Behney, 1907-11; Grant Light, 1911-14; Boaz G. Light, 1914-18; Samuel Waltz, 1918-20; and Boaz G. Light, 1920-46. The last named has been a member of the Conference Board of Christian Education since 1937. In 1941 he was elected alternate lay delegate to General Conference and was seated to serve in place of an absentee delegate in the special session of 1946, and in the "Uniting Conference" immediately following.

Ministers serving the Avon congregation from 1871 to 1878 were those appointed to Lebanon Circuit. From 1878 onward the follow-

**Avon Church****Fontana S. S. Chapel**

ing ministerial brethren were appointed to Avon charge: George Shindler, 1878-79; W. H. Uhler, 1879-80; Simon Noll, 1880-81; J. H. Lowery, 1881-83; H. H. Gelbach, Ephraim Light, 1883-84; Clint S. Miller, 1884-85; Joel Light, 1885-88; James Shoop, 1888-89; Samuel Etter Jr., 1889-92; H. H. Mark, 1892-93; Gottlieb Myer, 1893-95; P. L. Hains, 1895-98; Jacob Runk, 1898-99; J. P. Smith, 1899-1901; L. R. Kramer, 1901-04; D. S. Longenecker, 1904-08; Clint S. Miller, 1908-09; D. S. Longenecker, 1909-15; H. E. Schaeffer, 1915-21; Charles A. Snively, 1921-23; N. I. Fake, 1923-28; R. S. Heverlig, 1928-29; H. S. Kiefer, 1929-38; L. R. Walters, 1938-43; and J. E. Keene, 1943-46.

Bellegrove Church

North Annville Township in which Bellegrove, Kauffman's, and Water Works Churches are located, has been a United Brethren stronghold from the beginning of our denomination. Jacob Ellenberger, (1763-1830), a local preacher, who lived on a farm bordering the village of Bellegrove on its west, was a leader in the movement to establish the church in this area. His house was used as a preaching appointment by Christian Newcomer as early as 1808. Even as early as 1799 Newcomer had come to this part of the country, and had an evening meeting at Daniel Razor's who lived near New Market Forge. From that year until 1824, this famous missionary visited or preached at Stouffer's, Rupp's, Mark's and George Huber's, and at Heilman's Schoolhouse. John Sherk, one of the sons of the Reverend Casper Sherk, came from the Bethel region in 1785 and settled on a farm located between Kauffman's and Bellegrove churches. These men with their families, and a score of others like them, influenced by United Brethren preaching, formed the background for these three churches.

The spiritual work among them led to the erection, in 1837, of a small brick church about a mile north of Bellegrove, known as "The Union Church." A few years after the church was built, the ownership of the property became a disputed question and the United Brethren lost whatever legal title they may have held. However, they continued to hold services in this church. Inasmuch as the Bellegrove class was not organized until six years afterward, title may have been vested in individuals rather than in a board of trustees of any particular denomination.

From one of a few church records of its kind of early date coming to our attention, we quote: "This class was formed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight-hundred and forty-three, May 3rd, by Samuel Enterline and Henry Esensy, circuit preachers, on charge." The following twenty names compose the membership roll, 1843-46: Henry W. Landis, Henry and Susan Alleman, Benjamin and Sarah Alleman, Henry and Lydia Frank, George and Rebecca Runkle, George and Sarah Mark, John and Susan Bomgardner, Henry and Sarah Farnsler, John and Lydia Yingst, John and Leah Kline, Nancy and Mary Mark. Class leaders in the order of their election 1843-54 were: Samuel Ellenberger, George Runkle Sr., Henry Alleman, Henry W. Landis, Jacob Mark, and William Biely. Benjamin Alleman, Henry H. Gelbach, Henry Frank, Henry Walter, John Yingst, Jacob H. Mark, Henry Farnsler, Moses Heilman, Jacob E. Lantz, Michael Noll, Cyrus Mutch, and George W. Runkle, served either as leaders or stewards, and in some cases served as both at different periods, from 1854-1871.

The Bellegrove class erected a brick church in the northern limits of the village in 1854 on a plot of sixteen perches of ground sold by Henry and Lydia Frank to William Biely, Joseph Frank, and Benjamin Alleman, trustees, for the price of \$52. George Runkle Sr., David A. Mark, John Yingst, Michael Noll, and Stephen W. Boltz were among the trustees who succeeded the first elected.

A Sunday School organized some years before 1868 had in that year as officers: Michael Noll, president; Levi Steahly, superintendent; Philip Schaffner, assistant superintendent; A. H. B. Seltzer, secretary; John Schroff, librarian; and H. M. Frank, treasurer. The sessions were at first held in the church basement, closing during the winter months, as the custom was by many schools in those days.

The house of worship has been kept in an excellent state of repair. During 1919-20 a new vestibule was constructed, a new furnace and new pews were installed, a new floor placed, and the walls redecorated, at a cost of \$2,082. Dr. S. C. Enck preached on the occasion of reopening services, June 6, 1920. Nine years later a metal ceiling was constructed, an indirect lighting system installed, and the walls were papered. Dr. S. C. Enck, and the Reverends M. H. Miller and I. B. Koons were the guest preachers on June 23, 1929, the day of reopening. In this connection the 75th anniversary of the building of the edifice was observed, the Rev. C. A. Mutch, pastor, was in charge.

For many years the pastors of the Bellegrove Circuit lived in rented homes in Bellegrove or Annville. In 1937 the joint official boards of the churches on the circuit, viz; Bellegrove, Water Works, Kauffman's and Mountville, purchased the dwelling at 117 North Railroad Street, Annville, Pa., for use as a parsonage. After making extensive improvements, bringing its total cost to \$3,128.11 Dr. S. C. Enck dedicated it September 19, 1937, and the Rev. C. R. Swartz and family were the first to occupy it as a manse. This pastor served the circuit eleven years, thereby exceeding all others in length of pastoral service given to this charge. Some time after dedication, Calvin Crum of Bellegrove Church, John H. Light of Kauffman's, and Thomas W. Runkle of Mountville, were elected parsonage trustees.

Present trustees at Bellegrove are: Harvey Umberger, Charles Moyer, Charles Tice, Lloyd Hostetter, and Marlin Blauch. Lloyd Hostetter is class leader. The general superintendent of the Sunday School is Marlin Blauch, Ray Shanaman is its treasurer, and Warren Barnhart is the secretary. Mrs. Mae Schell heads the Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. Marlin Blauch is secretary of the organization and Mrs. Dorothy Hostetter is the treasurer.

The large number of men entering the ministry from this area has been a frequent subject of conversation in conference circles for many years. All named in the following list came from North Annville Township, and with but several exceptions, were licensed by vote of the Bellegrove class: George A. Mark Sr., John Moyer, George A. Mark Jr., Henry W. Landis, Daniel Lightner, Henry H. Gelbach, Jacob H. Mark, Charles A. Mutch, Allen G. Nye, David E. Long, Milton H. Miller, G. Jay Umberger, and Mark J. Hostetter. Miss Cora M. Horst is a teacher in the Home Mission School at Alcalde, New Mexico.

The Bellegrove Church has been attached to the following Circuits: Lebanon Circuit, 1843-63; Bellegrove Circuit, 1863-82; Grantville Circuit, 1882-89; and Bellegrove Circuit, 1889-1946.

Brightbill's Church, South Annville Township

A substantial structure of native limestone standing on an elevation of ground along State Highway No. 322, about two miles east of Campbelltown, remains as a landmark to the faith of those church fathers who lived in the heart of the Lebanon Valley. The Church known as "Brechtbill's Meeting House" was erected in the year 1842 and is the oldest house of worship, still standing, erected in Lebanon County by the United Brethren in Christ. It bears the name of the family on whose land it was erected. Abraham Brightbill and wife Mary, nee Landis, sold thirty-three perches of ground to Samuel Etter, II, Henry Carmony, and Samuel Bowman, trustees of the congregation, for the sum of \$10.31.

Abraham Brightbill was the son of Samuel Brightbill and wife, Frances Troxel, who was the daughter of the Rev. Abraham Troxel. Mary Landis the wife of Abraham Brightbill was the daughter of the Rev. Henry Landis Sr., a preacher for the Mennonites, and a

sister of the Rev. Henry Landis Jr., a local preacher for the United Brethren. This couple were the ancestors of many well-known United Brethren in the Lebanon Valley. Among the oldest living descendants is a grand-daughter, Mrs. Sarah Hartz, aged eighty-two years, a member of Palmyra First Church. Her mother, Caroline Brightbill Balsbaugh, lived to the age of ninety-two and was a member of the Hummelstown Church.

The first separate session of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference was held in this church, March 4-6, 1847. Bishop William Hanby, whose son "Ben" wrote both words and music of the song, "My Darling Nellie Gray," and other songs, presided at this session. The Rev. Christian S. Crider, minister of Lebanon Salem Church, was elected co-chairman, Henry Staub was German secretary and Joseph Young, Sr. was English secretary. Twenty-six ministers were present, five of whom were ordained at this session.

The following brethren served Brightbill's Church, 1848-1876, in official capacity, as revealed by quarterly conference minutes: Samuel Bowman, Abraham Brightbill, Samuel Etter Sr., Samuel Etter Jr., John Etter, James Blauch, Peter Sheetz, George Gingrich, Michael B. Siegrist, Josiah Hartz, Joseph R. Shenk, George Long, John Stauffer, and Amos Tittle. Samuel Etter 1st (1758-1840) lived on a farm located about midway between the church and Palmyra, a farm later in possession of another staunch United Brethren, Samuel F. Engle. Samuel Etter II, and his son, Samuel Etter III, were both members of annual conference. Samuel II was licensed in 1833 and ordained in 1835, and always held a local relation. Samuel Etter III (1823-1907) preached locally for many years as a quarterly conference licentiate, but in 1870, at the age of forty-three, was granted annual license, and was ordained three years later. He served the following charges: Pinegrove, Jonestown Circuit, (two terms), Lehigh Circuit, Reading Zion, Reading Salem, Avon, Lebanon Memorial, and Tamaqua.

By 1874 the United Brethren work at Brightbill's had weakened considerably, so much so, that an order was passed by quarterly conference that the church be closed or sold. However, by 1878 the congregation had revived somewhat and was attached to Lebanon Circuit and served by German-speaking ministers. Trustees in office in the year 1899 were instructed to sell the property. This was not done until the year 1912, when a private party bought it and in turn sold it to the United Christian denomination.

This church was under the ministerial care of those brethren appointed to the following charges; Lebanon Circuit, 1842-1855; Annville, 1855-78; Lebanon Circuit, 1878-88; Ruhl's (Lancaster County), 1887-88; Annville, 1888-90; Fishburn's, 1890-91; Schaefferstown, 1891-93; and Lebanon Circuit, 1893-99.

Campbelltown Church

The history of our work at Campbelltown falls under two periods. As early as 1852 there was a class by this name, for in that year the quarterly conference of Lebanon Circuit ordered that Bright-

bill's and Campbelltown classes be united. The action was not carried out and the class continues to be mentioned. In 1858, Edward Dissinger, Henry Bomberger, and George Etter were appointed trustees for the Campbelltown class, which would indicate that the building of a church was in prospect. In addition to the trustees, Daniel Gingrich and Henry Baum were local officials. Due, probably, both to withdrawals and to the close proximity of Brightbill's Church, the first period of our work in Campbelltown ended in 1868 or soon thereafter.

The second and permanent period had its inception in the year 1919. The recital which follows shows a rather phenomenal growth and achievement. A preliminary survey of the possibilities for a new organization was made by the Reverends H. E. Miller and C. R. Longenecker; and Mr. George Simmers, a locally interested layman. Dr. S. C. Enck and these three brethren secured permission from the South Londonderry Township School Board to hold meetings in the public school building at Campbelltown, and the first service was held on the afternoon of the last Sunday of January, 1920. The Rev. C. R. Longenecker, pastor of Palmyra Second Church, continued to hold services regularly and on the last Sunday of August held a service of Holy Communion and enrolled a class of fourteen members, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. George B. Simmers, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Bolan, Mary and Noah Bolan, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Eckert, Phares Eckert, Mrs. Mae Hainly, Mrs. Samuel Sheetz, Elizabeth Sheetz, Mrs. Levi Flory Sr., and Ursula Landis.

In the fall of 1920 the Rev. S. L. Rhoads was appointed to Palmyra Second and he also served the Campbelltown class. For lack of sufficient room at the school building, services were transferred in January 1921 to an old dwelling located on the main street. This old dwelling, once used as a tavern, had been reconstructed and properly furnished for the purpose of public worship, through the cooperation and investment of money on the part of brother David S. Funk of Palmyra, at a cost of \$703.44, which amount was forwarded by Mr. Funk. Pastor Rhoads held a revival meeting and received forty-four new members. By the end of the conference year 1920-21 there was a church membership of 56, and a Sunday School enrollment of 170 with an average attendance of 112. Cash amounting to \$1,600 had been received during the year and the money forwarded for remodeling and furnishing could be returned.

Officers elected for the new organization March 15, 1921 were as follows: church trustees, David S. Funk, George Miller, A. C. Spangler, Phares Kauffman, and Charles Binkley; church secretary, Amos F. Geeseman; general steward, George Miller; ushers, Harvey Geib, and John Funk. Officers previously elected by the class were: Allen Bolan, leader, David S. Funk, assistant leader, George B. Simmers and Grant Foreman, stewards.

On September 8, 1921 the official board purchased from Mr. H. A. Alger the lot of ninety-four feet frontage and the building on it which had been used as a church, for the sum of \$1,200. Continued growth of the congregation and increased financial strength war-



Campbelltown Church

ranted taking steps to erect a church building. Plans for such a project presented to the quarterly conference held April 13, 1924, were adopted and in June excavation was begun. The cornerstone was laid by Dr. S. C. Enck, August 24. The temple of worship constructed of brick at a cost of \$21,222.18, not including free labor nor the cost of the lot, was dedicated to the worship of the Triune God, April 19, 1924 by Bishop William M. Bell.

A large parking lot next to the church on the east was purchased in January 1925, costing \$500. Additional ground adjoining the church lot on the west was secured and a brick parsonage costing \$7,580 was erected. It was dedicated by Dr. Enck, November 17, 1940. All indebtedness having been cancelled, special services were

held Sunday, April 22, 1945, in charge of the pastor, the Rev. Warren F. Mentzer, the Rev. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, conducting a mortgage note-burning ceremony at the afternoon service.

The Rev. Mentzer, closing the eighth year of his pastorate in the fall of 1946, reported for the Campbelltown Church a membership of 271, a Sunday School enrollment of 374, and church property valued at \$50,000. During the eight years he also had the pastoral care of Fontana and Rocherty churches, this being his first and only charge.

The Sunday School was organized February 27, 1921, when the following officers were elected: superintendent, A. C. Spangler; assistant superintendent, Charles Binkley; secretary, Amos F. Geeseman; treasurer, Phares Kauffman; and pianist, Sarah Kauffman. Mr. Spangler has served as superintendent from the time of its organization to the present. The Women's Missionary Association was organized, February 12, 1922. This is the only association in the conference known to have been organized with more men than women. Mrs. A. C. Spangler, its first president, was Secretary of Literature for the Conference Branch for a number of years. The Otterbein Guild, organized September 2, 1928, selected as its first president, Miss Sarah Kauffman, who was Secretary of Literature of the conference organization for one year. There are three Christian Endeavor Societies. Officers of the Otterbein Brotherhood are: president, E. Mark Hitz; secretary, Wayne M. Byers; and treasurer, Chester N. Smith. David S. Funk, Amos F. Geeseman, Clayton G. Lehman, and Phares H. Kauffman, compose the present trustee board.

The list of ministers serving the congregation follows: S. L. Rhoads, 1920-23; R. S. Arndt, 1923-25; S. H. Waltz, 1925-30; S. H. Waltz, James Bingham, 1930-31; James Bingham, 1931-32; E. E. Bender, 1932-34; Ezra H. Ranck, 1934-38; and Warren F. Mentzer, 1938-46.

Cleona Immanuel Church

One of the younger and very promising churches of the conference is located in the Borough of Cleona, on the northwest corner of East Maple and North Lincoln Streets. Annual conference leaders acted wisely by passing a resolution requesting the Annville and Lebanon Trinity churches jointly to establish a church in Cleona. A class of 26 members was organized in the month of January 1904 under conference direction; and the Rev. F. J. Butterwick was placed in charge of the work. Among the lay people who were instrumental in effecting an organization were: Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Heffelfinger, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Clouser, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Miller, Harry and Jennie Douple and Annie Groh. The class met in the Cleona public school and in private homes until a frame church building was completed late in the fall of that year.

The Cleona community has had a steady, healthy growth in population and industrial activities. The congregation has likewise

grown in numbers and influence. In 1918 a private dwelling located on Maple Street about two blocks west of the church was purchased at a cost of \$2,400 for use as a parsonage. With a membership of 132 and a Sunday School enrollment of 284, under the leadership of the Rev. S. Paul Weaver, then a student at Lebanon Valley College and a member of Erie Conference, now superintendent of said conference, a handsome brick church was erected. The sanctuary room with galleries on the north and south sides provides seating for an audience of 400. The basement is suitably laid out in rooms for elementary Sunday School classes. Dr. I. E. Runk made the address on the occasion of the cornerstone laying, September 17, 1922. By July of the following year the edifice was ready for dedication. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, officiated at the dedicatory services on the evening of Sunday July 29, 1923. Harvey H. Snyder, Adam G. Lerch, Frank G. Moyer, Isaac Boyer, Simon Tice, Harry L. Miller, and Ezra F. Kreider constituted the board of trustees which bore the responsibility of bringing this enterprise, which cost \$30,000, to a successful completion.



Cleona Church

A parsonage and garage constructed of brick were erected on the western end of the large lot originally purchased for a church plot. The manse was dedicated December 26, 1926 by Dr. S. C. Enck. The value of this new property was placed at \$8,250. An Orgatron was purchased and improvements were made to the church in 1940, at a cost of \$2,609.12. The last dollar of indebtedness on a total ex-

penditure of \$40,859.12, for buildings and new equipment, plus interest charges, was paid during the conference year 1945-46.

Trustees of the Cleona Church, in addition to those already mentioned, were: John Meily, Clayton L. Brandt, and Henry Heisy. The last named was also class leader and Sunday School superintendent for a number of years. Harvey H. Snyder and Joseph C. Early succeeded Mr. Heisy as general superintendents. The present trustee board consists of John C. Long, Paul H. Kreider Sr., Isaac Boyer, George J. Bowman, and Alvin Sprecher. Homer D. Miller has also served in the capacity of class leader, and is the present leader. Susan J. Balsbaugh is president of the Woman's Missionary Association; Isaac Kreider, president of the Brotherhood; Jacob H. Long, president of Adult Christian Endeavor; Robert F. Early, president of Young People's Christian Endeavor, and Dorothy N. Snyder heads the Children's Work.

Ministers who served the Cleona Church since the term of F. J. Butterwick have been those who were appointed to the following charges or circuits: Lebanon Circuit, 1904-05; Bellegrove Circuit, 1905-06; Pleasant Hill charge, 1906-19. Those who were appointed to the Cleona-Pleasant Hill charge are: Thomas Garland, 1919-21; S. Paul Weaver, 1921-23; Raymond Fortna, 1923-25; C. R. Longenecker, 1925-30; Ira Funk, 1930-33; James E. Keene, 1933-42; and C. W. Hendrickson, 1942-46.

Ebenezer Church, North Lebanon Township.

Ebenezer and Kochenderfer's churches, located about two miles apart on a direct east-northeast line, had a common background and a parallel development. The Abraham Troxel farm was located on this line about one-third of the distance from Ebenezer to Kochenderfer's. Reference to Troxel's ministry, as recited in Chapter III of this volume, will give the reader some knowledge of the beginning of the spiritual movement which won adherents to the United Brethren in North Lebanon. These converts became the spiritual wards of the founders of the Lebanon congregation. In due course of time the Blouch, Meyer, Light, Steckbeck, Zeller, Kreider, Kochenderfer and other families, formed the nuclei of classes organized by the brethren preaching at Light's Meeting-house and Lebanon Salem.

An inspection of the quarterly conference minutes of Lebanon Salem reveals what the connections were and how the mother church cared for her spiritual children. The work of the Lebanon congregation was heavy enough for the preacher in charge, and the care of the rural classes was largely in the hands of local preachers answerable to Salem quarterly.

One of these rural classes was known as the "Blauch's Class," (variously spelled Blauch, Blough, etc.). This class met in the homes of the community which in time was called "Ebenezer." It was in existence as early as 1854. At the first quarterly session of the conference year 1871-72, held in Lebanon Salem, a trustee

THE CHURCHES OF LEBANON COUNTY



Ebenezer Church



Mountville Church

board was appointed to secure ground for the purpose of erecting a house of worship for the Kochenderfer's Class. The following quarterly appointed Daniel W. Zeller, John Henry Steckbeck, and Henry Blouch to perform a similar service for the Blouch's class, and directed the members of both boards to make an effort to cooperate in building one house of worship for both classes. At the third quarterly, July 22, 1871, brother Kochenderfer reported that the two boards had a meeting "but could not succeed in their object and that in his opinion the board he represents should be abolished." The report was accepted and a new board of trustees, consisting of Joseph T. Light, Jacob L. Light, Josiah Meyer, Daniel W. Zeller, and Henry Blouch, was constituted for the Ebenezer Class.

Under the trusteeship of these men a brick church costing about \$5,000, was erected in 1872 in the village of Ebenezer. Minor improvements were made on this building from time to time. In 1932 additional Sunday School rooms were provided and furnished with new chairs and tables for Primary and Junior children, a new piano was purchased, and a new heating plant was installed, all at a cost of \$2,200. In 1939 major improvements were made: new pews, carpet, and light fixtures were placed, the walls were redecorated, and a Moller pipe organ was installed, totalling a cost of \$8,137.80. The sanctuary was reopened and the organ dedicated Easter Sunday, April 9.

The Lebanon Circuit, comprised of Ebenezer and Kochenderfer's churches, erected a parsonage which was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, Sunday, July 28, 1929. It is a commodious two-story brick building located on the Lebanon-Ebenezer Road. It cost \$6,538.21. When, soon afterward, the two churches, by conference action, were constituted as separate charges, it became the property of the Ebenezer Church.

The church observed its seventieth anniversary on November 16, 1943. Two former pastors, the Reverends G. Edgar Hertzler and T. J. Barnhart, were the guest speakers. At that time there

were 154 members enrolled, and the Sunday School had a membership of 214.

Ebenezer Church has been affiliated with the following circuits or charges: Lebanon Circuit, 1872-95; Lebanon Circuit, 1901-05; Lebanon West and Pleasant Hill 1905-06; Lebanon West, 1906-09; Lebanon Circuit, 1909-40. The pastors for Ebenezer Station, 1895-1901, were: Amos Graul, 1895-96; Jacob Runk, 1896-98; P. L. Hains, 1898-99; D. D. Buddinger, 1899-1900; and H. F. Rhoad, 1900-01. Since becoming a station in 1940, John H. Gable served until 1944, and Truman Kostenbader, 1944-46.

Fontana Church, South Annville Township

The Fontana congregation uses as its house of worship a frame chapel erected by "The Fontana Union Sunday School" in 1905. The United Brethren function as a distinct church organization but cooperate in a Union Sunday School. Our ministers had appointments at various points along the old "Horse Shoe Pike" at intermittent periods from 1848 onward, among them being Shaffer's, Meadowville, Long Meadow, Gingrich's, and Bachmanville, the last being an earlier name for the Fontana community because of the many Bachmans living there. The movement which led to a permanent class organization at Fontana had its beginning in 1899. Jacob Westenberger a local minister holding membership at Rocherty, preached in the old schoolhouse at Fontana every four weeks from August 1899 to February 1902.

In the fall of 1905 Fontana appointment was officially recognized by annual conference and placed to Iona Circuit of which the Rev. F. J. Butterwick was the appointed minister. The chapel was dedicated November 30, 1905, and from that date forward the United Brethren have held services in it. The 1906 session of annual conference placed Fontana under the newly created Pleasant Hill Circuit and appointed the Rev. P. L. Hains, who conducted two weeks of revival services at Fontana, and on December 23, 1906 organized a class of fourteen members consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Shenk, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Herr, Joseph, Reuben, and Miss Annie Shenk, John L. Balsbaugh, and Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh, received by letter of transfer; and Samuel S., Elmer R., and Miss Katie Shenk, and Mr. and Mrs. John Hershey on profession of faith.

The cooperative effort in promoting a Union Sunday School and in conducting of business affairs by a trustee board composed of several denominational representatives has always functioned smoothly. It may well serve as a splendid example of church comity. The Sunday School was in existence many years before the chapel was built, and Samuel R. Shenk was its superintendent from 1893 onward until his demise in 1926. He was the very embodiment of genuine Christian piety and charity. Irwin Meyer served the School in more recent years as superintendent; John Hershey and George Bordlemay as assistants, representing the

United Brethren. Our representatives on the trustee board for the chapel have been Samuel R. Shenk Samuel S. Shenk, John Hershey, Amos Lentz, and Henry C. Smith.

The women and girls have made an enviable record in their devotion to denominational missionary work. The three main officers of the Women's Society are Mrs. William Umberger, Mrs. Joseph Kreider, and Mrs. Harvey Sellers; and of the Guild Girls, Elsie Hostetter, Fern Funk, and Estella Forry. Miss Katie Shenk was for many years president of the Women's Society; and Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh, while a member at Fontana and later at Cleona, is well known through her missionary connections with conference and denominational missionary organizations.

Ministers serving Fontana Church were those appointed to the following charges: Iona, 1905-06; Pleasant Hill Circuit, 1906-24; Campbelltown, 1924-27; Rocherty, 1927-34; and Campbelltown, 1934-46.

Fredericksburg Church

United Brethren influences were at work in the valley of the little Swatara early in the formative period of our denomination. Bishop Christian Newcomer's ministry, and that of Troxel, Kreider, Ellenberger, and Felix Light, natives of Lebanon County, were acceptable to a goodly number of families residing in the area of original Bethel Township, which at the time of its erection in 1739 included approximately all of the territory drained by the Little Swatara Creek. Newcomer reports having visited Christian Sherk as early as 1799, and in 1803 he spent a night at the home of the Rev. Casper Sherk, minister of the Mennonite Society and father-in-law of Felix Light. Three churches grew out of the movement, viz.: Fredericksburg, Jonestown, and Mountville. Three other organized classes which functioned for a time were: a class which held services in the Union Salem Church, the Shirksville or Swatara Class, and the Monroe Valley Class.

Shirksville, probably the oldest of these classes, was named after a community of a half dozen or more dwellings scattered about a crossroad one mile south of Fredericksburg. The community in turn derived its name from the Sherk family of which Casper Sherk, Sr., and his wife Magdalena Folk, were the ancestors. They lived on a large farm located immediately east of the said crossroad. Their son, Casper Sherk, 2nd, the Mennonite preacher, was granted this farm by the parents. On March 1, 1775, he sold one acre of ground to Christian Newcomer, Peter Grove, Peter Wolf, and Christian Lentz, trustees for the Mennonite Society, for the erection of a meeting house and for a burial ground. The Christian Newcomer here mentioned was a first cousin of Bishop Christian Newcomer. The bishop's uncle, Peter Newcomer, father of the Mennonite trustee, had settled in Bethel Township. The Bishop paid him a visit on the day preceding his visit to the Reverend Mr. Sherk.

According to verbal information, Rudolph Sherk, a member of the Shirksville, class, asked permission to hold services in the church. The privilege not being granted, he then fitted up his log dwelling for public worship by tearing out partitions and by making such other changes as seemed necessary. The Grove Mill some distance west of the crossroad, and the home of John Light, who was known as "Tanner John," were also used as meeting places for the class. Dr. Ezra Grumbine, in 1917, wrote a vivid account of an "Old-time" religious service held in the home of John Light in the year 1854.³ It is a correct portrayal, in all its details, of a typical worship service of nearly a century ago, and is worth anyone's reading. Following is a paragraph dealing with the persons present: "The scene is still vivid enough in the writer's memory to name nearly all the members of that assembly. They were Jacob Buchmoyer and wife, Rudy Sherk, Josiah S. Light and his wife, John Buchmoyer, John Weller and his wife, Tobias Behny, Henry and Abraham Wenger and their wives, who were daughters of John Light, Jacob L. Bicksler, Jacob Weller and his wife, Jacob Lentz and his wife, Samuel Sherk and his wife, Mrs. Maria Grumbine, John Oberholtzer and his wife, and others."

The official quarterly conference records of the Lebanon Circuit, 1849-62, reveal that Josiah Light, John Light, C. Sherk, George and John Hunsicker, Rudolph and Samuel Sherk, and John Weller were members of the quarterly, representing the Shirksville class; and that John Light, Jacob Weller, George Lentz, C. A. Meily, and Penrose Sherk were members of the quarterly, representing the Fredericksburg class. The history of these two classes runs parallel. For convenience sake they worshipped separately for the most part, but from the record of efforts made to rent or erect a house of worship, it is apparent that trustees representing both classes were selected for a common project.

The group worshipping in Fredericksburg made the first attempt to come into possession of a church building. The quarterly record of January 6, 1849 states: "Resolved that three trustees be appointed to buy a meeting house in Fredericksburg. The trustees are, viz.: John Light (Tanner), Jacob Weller, and Jacob Lentz." Three years later the action of quarterly conference was that trustees be appointed to rent or build a meeting house in Fredericksburg for the United Brethren in Christ, and John Light (Tanner), Jacob Weller, and Henry H. Gelbach were selected.

In 1854 Henry H. Gelbach, George Hunsicker, and Samuel Sherk were appointed trustees to consider building a meeting house in the neighborhood of Shirksville. A year later Rudolph Sherk was appointed instead of Gelbach. In 1857 and in 1858 the matter was again discussed. Though a lot had been purchased, no church was erected by this class as a separate organization. The class was finally absorbed by the one at Fredericksburg.

The Fredericksburg class continued to worship in private homes and in a church erected by the Evangelical Association. In 1875

George Lentz, Josiah Light, John Weller, Samuel Richert, and John N. Long bought a lot on the corner of Center and Walnut Streets on which stood a coach factory, for the sum of \$1,200. This building was removed and a frame church erected in the year 1876 after plans drawn by Mr. Richert. In 1936 a new furnace was installed, a vestibule at the main entrance was constructed, the interior and exterior of the building were painted, and the church furniture was revarnished, at a cost of \$964.42. Dr. H. E. Miller preached the reopening sermon, December 6.

The church has been affiliated with the following circuits: from its beginning until 1862, Lebanon Circuit; Jonestown Circuit, 1862-63; Bellegrove Circuit, 1863-71; Jonestown Circuit, 1871-1903; Lickdale Circuit, 1903-06; and Jonestown Circuit, 1906-46.



Fredericksburg Church



Green Point Church

Green Point Church, Union Township

In a scenic valley lying between the first and second ridges of the Blue Mountains, about a mile westward from the heart of the Swatara Gap, the United Brethren erected a frame building in the year 1873. Emanuel Fake, Solomon Mease, and David Rupp were trustees for the class at the time. The Weidman Estate, which held tracts of land in the locality, promised to give to the congregation one acre of ground for church and burial purposes. However, no deed of transfer was executed at the time. The Weidman Estate became insolvent and the Lebanon National Bank was appointed assignee. Said institution then granted a deed for one-eighth acre of ground, for the consideration of five dollars in the year 1884.

After erection of the church a debt of \$350 remained to be provided for. Israel Hay, minister of the Church of God held a revival meeting in the Fishing Creek Valley which resulted in numerous converts, and in order to provide a suitable place of worship, he entered into agreement with the United Brethren to hold services in their building on alternate Sundays. He and his people agreed to pay the remaining indebtedness on the building for this privilege, but misunderstanding soon arose and the compact was cancelled. The United Brethren soon thereafter met their financial obligations, and have through the more than seventy years of history as a local church organization served the community well and have made a vital contribution to the spiritual life of the annual conference.

Green Point Church is the home church of Doctor O. L. Mease and of the Reverends Norman I. Fake and Harry W. Deaven, who became members of this conference. Dr. Mease passed on to his crowning on April 27, 1946. He served Cordelia and Centerville Circuits, 1905-09, while a student at Lebanon Valley College, and continued to serve Centerville for a year after graduation from college in 1908. When a student at Bonebrake Theological Seminary, the Rev. Mease held supply appointments at Lake Odessa, Michigan; and Lockington, Ohio. He returned to East Pennsylvania, was ordained in the fall of 1912, and was appointed to Myerstown Church which he served until 1916. His subsequent appointments were, Mountville, Millersburg, Harrisburg State Street, Mt. Joy, and Shamokin First churches. Dr. Mease pursued graduate work in Temple University where he earned the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology. Lebanon Valley College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1935. He was an excellent student, a sincere preacher of the Word, and a faithful shepherd of souls.

J. J. Behney, father of Dr. J. Bruce Behney of Bonebrake Seminary, is one of the church trustees at Green Point, and serving with him on this board are, David Deaven, Monroe Minnich, Mrs. Dorothy Swalm; and Lloyd Deaven who is also superintendent of the Sunday School.

The Green Point Church has been attached to the following circuits; Jonestown, 1873-85; Fishing Creek, (Dauphin County), 1885-88; Grantville, (Dauphin County), 1888-89; Bellegrave, 1901-03; Lickdale, 1903-06; Jonestown, 1907-10 and 1911-22; Lickdale, 1922-33 and 1934-46. From 1899 to 1901, the church formed a charge and was served by George Lentz. During the year 1906-07, it was under Grantville quarterly conference and H. H. Hoffer was the minister. During 1910-11, this church was under the care of Jonestown Circuit and was served by P. B. Gible and other supplies. For a single year 1933-34; Lickdale and Green Point together formed a supply appointment with C. A. Mutch as its minister.

Iona Church, South Lebanon Township

The present church organization at Iona had its beginning in 1894. There was, however, a Dundore's class, which appears to have been

the name of the earliest class of United Brethren in the community now known as Iona, under the Lebanon Salem quarterly, as early as 1848. Emanuel Dundore was its class leader for many years. In 1855 Dundore's appointment was attached to Myerstown Circuit. In 1861 Dundore's class was still on the same circuit, but two years later Emanuel's appointment appears, seemingly in place of Dundore's.

A brick church building located on the opposite side of the street, and a short distance west of the present United Brethren building, was erected by the Dundore's class. A stone in the north gable has this inscription: "Emanuel's Versamlungs Haus Der Ver. Brüder in Christo, 1862." (Emanuel's Meeting House of the United Brethren in Christ.) A deed on record in the county courthouse bearing the date, December 21, 1862, states that Jonathan Dundore and wife Elizabeth sold a small plot of ground to Elias Dundore, Samuel Snyder, and Moses Strohm, trustees, for the purpose of the United Brethren in Christ worshipping in the house erected thereon.

A few years after the church was built, because of defections caused by the organizing of the United Christian denomination, many of this congregation seceded from the United Brethren in Christ, and in time the church was lost to us. The class, however, under the various names of Brubacher's, Buffalo Springs, Buffalo Run, New Buffalo Springs, continued, as shown by these names appearing on authentic records from 1865 to 1889. Meetings were held in members' homes in the Buffalo Springs Community, which derives its name from a series of strong springs forming one of the main branches of the Hammer Creek.

The Rev. J. B. Daugherty, minister of the Lebanon Circuit (English) held a revival at the home of John Snyder in the winter of 1894 which resulted in a number of converts. These, together with the members of the then existent class, were organized into a new class which again took the name, "Dundore's." It consisted of thirty-nine members and had Abraham Shenk as class leader. Five years later, under the pastorate of the Rev. W. W. Fridinger, the site of the present church was purchased, and a house of worship erected costing \$4,000. It was dedicated November 13, 1899 by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent. This new organization and building have always been known as the "Iona Church."

An excellent record of spiritual and material progress has been made by the new organization. Twelve years after erection of the church, a two-story frame parsonage, on a lot adjoining that of the church on the west, was built at a cost of \$2,100. In the conference year 1916-17 a large shed and a garage were added to the group of buildings, trees and shrubbery were planted, and the cemetery fenced in and placed under perpetual care. During the next decade, a new heating plant and a Delco Light system were installed. These and other items of improvement cost \$3,000. In 1930 there was an expenditure of \$4,378.82 on grounds and buildings.

The original church building was enlarged by the addition of a two-story annex, providing Sunday School facilities for the ele-

**Iona Church****Pleasant Hill Church**

mentary grades. Cost of the new structure, plus renovations on the church and parsonage, amounted to \$6,200. Reopening services were held September 21, 1941.

The complete list of class leaders from 1894 to the present is as follows: Abraham Shenk, Henry B. Bomberger, Edwin W. Hoke, John A. Herr, D. K. Bomberger, and Samuel A. Herr. Sunday School superintendents serving over the same years were: Abraham Shenk, Cyrus Smith, Monroe Brubaker, Allen Horst, and Stanley Smith. Present officers of the Women's Missionary Society are: president, Mrs. Stanley Smith, secretary, Mrs. Paul Bucher, and treasurer, Mrs. Samuel Glick; of the Otterbein Guild, Elsie Stohler, Ruth Etter, and Helen Spancake; of the Christian Endeavor, Lester Spancake, Mrs. Royce Ward, and Howard Staeger; of the Ladies' Aid, Mary Bomberger, Mrs. Russel Etter, and Mrs. Raymond Smith.

Beginning with the year 1855, this class under its several names has been attached to the following circuits or charges: Myerstown Circuit, 1855-69; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1869-71; Lebanon Circuit, 1871-78; Avon Circuit, 1878-89; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1889-93; Lebanon Circuit (English), 1893-98; Schaefferstown charge, 1898-1902; Ministers serving the Iona charge have been: R. S. Arndt, 1902-03; J. R. Blecher, 1903-05; F. J. Butterwick, 1905-07; J. P. Smith, 1907-08; Charles Bauer, 1908-09; J. P. Smith, 1909-10; C. W. Miller, 1910-13; C. W. Miller, M. A. Wagner, 1913-14; R. E. Morgan, 1914-16; G. W. Rothermal, 1916-17; W. E. Shoop, 1917-19; William Beach, 1919-22; M. B. Spayd, 1922-28; E. M. Strickler, 1928-32; M. H. Miller, 1932-36; H. M. Mathias, 1936-39, and Russel E. Etter, 1939-46.

Jonestown Church

The Jonestown class, organized sometime during the fourth decade of the last century, held services in a Union Church for a number of years. A trustee board was first appointed in 1854, but

whether to have custody of the union house or with the intent of building a house of worship for the United Brethren is uncertain. Whatever the status may have been prior to 1857, it is known that in that year, David Wentling, Samuel Sherk Jr., and Michael Heim, trustees, bought a lot fronting eighty-six feet on Broad Street and extending eastward one-hundred and ninety-eight feet along Chestnut Street, for the sum of \$125. Moses Mark and John Fauber were the building committee and Michael Heim was treasurer of the building fund. A brick edifice was erected on this lot in the same year at a cost of \$2,500. Jacob Doerkson and Jacob Runk were in charge of the Lebanon Circuit of which the Jonestown class was an appointment.

Laymen having official duties as class leaders and stewards from 1849 to 1871 were Peter Wentling, John Fauber, Michael Heim, Moses Mark, Simon Desh, Abraham Wengert, Christian Sherk, Samuel Phraener, Abraham Wentling and George Hauer. Trustees following those first elected were John Light, John Long, Benjamin Sherk, Israel Bitting, Abraham Wentling and Samuel Wagner.

Dr. George H. Bender, local druggist, and influential member of the Jonestown congregation, donated a plot of ground located on Market Street, the Borough's main east and west thoroughfare. A brick church, costing approximately \$10,000 was erected on this new site. It was dedicated by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, June 11, 1911. A week of services followed in which the Reverends G. D. Batdorf, S. C. Enck, H. M. Miller, R. R. Butterwick, S. E. Rupp, and A. S. Beckley participated.

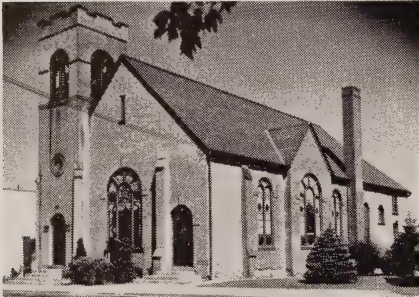
On February 2, 1936 this building was almost completely destroyed by fire. The work of rebuilding began by the following June and was completed by December. On the 29th of that month Dr. H. E. Miller preached the opening sermon. Dedicatory services were delayed until Bishop Batdorf could be present for the event, which took place June 13, 1937. One of the delights of that occasion was the presence of the same choir—with but one exception caused by removal through death—as was present for the dedication of the former building. The cost of reconstruction was \$12,960.64, of which amount all but \$2,103.64 was covered by fire insurance held on the destroyed building. In tribute to Dr. Bender, donor of the ground, Red Rose Sunday is observed each year on the Sunday closest to the date of dedication.

The Jonestown congregation purchased a dwelling located on Market Street not far removed from the church for use as a circuit parsonage, and the Rev. Paul Fridinger, a former pastor, dedicated it June 9, 1940.

Class leaders for the more recent period have been George Uhl, Monroe Young, Harry Yeagley, and Ray Boeshore. Trustees now holding office are Philip M. Slike, Ray Boeshore, Ira Boeshore, John H. Fortna, and Robert J. Emrich. Harry Diener served sometime as Sunday School superintendent, his successor being Robert Emrich who served twenty-five years; Ralph Mohn is the present

incumbent. President and treasurer, respectively, of the following organizations are, for the Ladies' Aid, Mrs. James Fortna, and Mrs. Ida Wentling; for the Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. Ralph Mohn and Mrs. Delmer Emrich; and for the Christian Endeavor Society, Ralph Gingrich and Alfred Fortna. Mrs. Edgar Hoffman and Mrs. Ralph Mohn have charge of the Junior Society.

The Jonestown Church has been affiliated with the following circuits: from its beginning until 1862, Lebanon Circuit; Jonestown Circuit, 1862-66; Bellegrove Circuit, 1866-71; Jonestown Circuit, 1871-1903; and 1906-46. It constituted a charge from 1903 to 1906, and its ministers were W. H. Boyer, 1903-05; and O. G. Romig, 1905-06.



Jonestown Church



Kauffman's Church

Kauffman's or Zion's Church, North Annville Township

Frederick Kauffman, said to have been a minister of the Mennonite Society, settled on a large tract of land one and one-fourth miles north of Annville, in 1758, and ten years later sold an acre of this tract to Ulrich Burkholder and Jacob Ellenberger, trustees of the Mennonite Society. On this plot they erected a meeting house which stood on the south-eastern area of the cemetery lot now in possession of the United Brethren.

On May 5, 1855, the Lebanon Circuit quarterly conference appointed John L. Moyer, Jacob Sherk, and Joseph Ellenberger trustees, "to build a new meeting house in Kauffman's Class." The church was probably built soon after the trustee board was appointed, certainly not later than 1859, inasmuch as the quarterly of the same circuit ordered, August 13, 1859, that settlement of "their new church be made and report the same to the next quarterly." The new church erected of brick, used by the United Brethren from that time to the present, stands across the road, eastward, from the cemetery, and fronts on the Bellegrove-Lebanon Road.

Joseph Ellenberger, one of the original trustees continued in that office until 1871 and possibly longer. John L. Moyer and Jacob Sherk were succeeded by Samuel Lessley, John Sherk, Sam-

uel Moyer, and Samuel Conrad. Joseph Ellenberger, Jacob Sherk, Jacob Light, Samuel Meyer, Daniel Emrich, Ephraim Winters, John Houser, and Irvin C. Meyer have been class leaders. Those who have held the office of Sunday School superintendent were: John H. Sherk, John Meyer, Samuel Meyer, Charles Boughter and John F. Light. The last named served for forty-five years until he was afflicted with a serious illness in 1937, when he was made honorary superintendent, and Martin Meyer, the present incumbent, took his place.

The Women's Missionary Association was organized by Rebecca Fritz about the year 1897. Mrs. John F. Light was elected its president, in which capacity she served until 1938. She was succeeded in that office by Mrs. Jacob Doutrich. The Otterbein Guild was organized April 29, 1934 by Miss Clara Preis, Branch President of the Guild, when the following officers were elected: president, Almeda M. Horst; Vice President, Bessie Ellenberger; secretary, Mary E. Meyer; and treasurer, Verna Meyer.

In 1890 the interior of the church was decorated and a belfry and bell were added. In 1932 new heating and new lighting systems were installed, a metal ceiling was constructed, and a new carpet laid, at a total cost of \$780. Reopening services were held November 27. In 1940 the belfry was replaced by a new tower and vestibule. Other improvements, consisting of a new floor, changing of the chancel, new furniture and carpet, and construction of a nursery room in the basement, cost something over \$4,000. The church trustees, Harvey Winters, John F. Light, Mrs. Lizzie Herr, Irvin C. Meyer and Oscar Meyer, with the members of the official board, constituted the committee on building. The Rev. C. R. Swartz directed the work of reconstruction and improvement and presided at the reopening services, November 19, 1940, at which time Dr. H. F. Rhoad was the guest speaker.

Kauffman's Church has been attached to the following Circuits: Lebanon Circuit, from the time of the beginning of the class until 1863; Bellegrove Circuit, 1863-82; Lebanon Circuit, 1882-1903; and Bellegrove Circuit, 1903-46.

Kochenderfer's Zion's Church, North Lebanon Township

This church is named for the Kochenderfer family, of whom John Kochenderfer, local preacher, class leader and steward, was one of the early promoters of a class affiliated with Lebanon Salem Church. It is located along a road running in an easterly direction from the Sand Hill Road to the Lebanon-Fredericksburg Road. The class was organized some time prior to 1848, but had no house of worship until 1874. John Kochenderfer, Samuel Longenecker, and Joseph S. Light were appointed trustees January 21, 1871 by Lebanon Salem quarterly to secure ground for a church building. In March of the year following, Gideon Light, Abraham Miller and J. H. Yingst were appointed a committee by said quarterly to consult with the brethren at Kochenderfer's to aid them in erection of a church building. This cooperative effort resulted in achieving the

desired aim and a frame building costing approximately \$2,300 was erected on the south side of said road.

For a period of fifty-eight years this building served the congregation's needs. A plot of ground on the opposite side of the road and a few rods to the east of the old church, sufficiently large for church, parsonage and parking purposes, was purchased by Daniel W. Brandt and donated to the church. A brick church was erected in 1932. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, laid the cornerstone on May 22, and dedicated the completed edifice with appropriate ceremonies September 18. The sanctuary, and gallery on the north side, provide a seating capacity of 300. A well-lighted basement provides excellent rooms for Sunday School work. The cost of the new building was \$14,380.14.

The parsonage, also of brick, was built in 1941, costing \$6,350. It was dedicated October 27, by Dr. S. C. Enck. The Rev. T. J. Barnhart was minister when the church was erected, at which time there were 127 church members and 226 Sunday School scholars. The parsonage was constructed during the second year of the Rev. Grant N. Miller's pastorate. The church membership then was 175 and the Sunday School enrollment was 244. Considering the numerical strength of the congregation, the completion of two such projects within a short period of time was a commendable achievement. At the close of the year 1943-44 pastor Miller reported the church property to be free of debt.

Trustees who served, following those first appointed, are: Martin Moyer, Adam B. Light, Peter Sholly, Samuel W. Beckley, John A. Herr, Frank Longenecker, Daniel W. Brandt, J. A. Artz, D. B. Brandt, Howard B. Gingrich, Frank Gettle, and Harry E. Fogelman. The church has now reached a membership of 205, the highest in its history, and is well organized for departmental work. The following officers head the several church organizations: Sunday School, Aaron B. Sherman, general superintendent, Claude Gettle, secretary; Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. Clarence Darkes, president, Mrs. Claude Gettle, secretary, Mrs. J. A. Artz, treasurer; Otterbein Guild, Ruth Gettle, president, Fern Hostetter, secretary, and Violet Sherman, treasurer.

Arthur S. Beckley, Ethel Hower, Harry E. Fogelman, and Herman Smith, were voted quarterly conference license by this class. The Reverend Beckley, the son of Samuel W. and Miranda R. Beckley, was converted at Kochenderfer's at the age of fifteen. When twenty-one he received quarterly conference license; and served Landingville 1904-06; and Mont Clare 1906-10. During the latter pastorate he completed the conference reading courses and was ordained in 1909. From 1910 to 1912 he preached on the Grantville Circuit. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1912. After graduation he was pastor of Shamokin First Church beginning in the fall of 1912 and continuing until his most promising career was ended by the onslaught of typhoid fever, October 5, 1914. He was an industrious student and a beloved and faithful pastor.

THE CHURCHES OF LEBANON COUNTY

This church has been attached to the following circuits and stations: Lebanon Circuit, 1872-82; Avon, 1882-98; Ebenezer, 1898-1901; Lebanon Circuit, 1901-05; Iona 1905-07; Lebanon Bethany 1907-09; Lebanon Circuit, 1909-40. Since forming a separate charge in 1940, Grant N. Miller has been serving to the present, 1946.



Kochenderfer's Church



Lebanon Memorial Church

Lebanon Bethany Church

Bethany Church had its beginning under the fostering care of Salem Church. A committee was appointed by quarterly conference in 1899 to consider the advisability of opening a new mission in the eastern part of the city. Jacob Runk and his son Irvin E. were the ministers at Salem when the work was begun. William L. Lenich and wife donated a plot of ground for a church building, and by congregational vote of Salem Church, financial support was pledged. A frame chapel erected on the northeast corner of Mifflin and Hanover Streets was dedicated by Bishop E. B. Kephart, December 4, 1900, at the morning service. The Rev. F. J. Butterwick preached in the German language in the afternoon. The trustees at the time were William L. Lenich, Morris K. Light, and Thomas G. Spangler. A Sunday School was organized soon after the chapel was completed.

The Rev. Joel Light was in charge of the new mission, 1901-03, by appointment of Salem quarterly. The property and congregation were turned over to the administration of annual conference which appointed J. P. Smith as its minister at the session of 1903.

The organization had a class of forty-two members and a Sunday School enrollment of 125. The property was valued at \$3,000, of which amount \$400 remained unpaid, but was provided for by Salem Church.

Extensive improvements were made to the building in 1932, when a basement was constructed under the entire building and laid out in Sunday School rooms, and both exterior and interior were painted, the total cost being \$3,500. The Rev. H. E. Zechman, pastor, was in charge of reopening services November 1, and Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached the sermon. A week of special services followed at which time former pastors brought the messages. Further improvements were made in 1942: an Orgatron was installed, new pews, pulpit and altar table placed, and the interior and exterior repainted. Dr. H. E. Miller performed the dedicatory rites and preached the sermon on reopening, March 22. The Rev. N. I. Fake, now exceeding all other pastors in length of time serving Bethany Church, was in charge.

Brother Morris K. Light, son of the Rev. Joel, was Sunday School superintendent for many years, and also gave long-time service as director of music. He was elected as one of East Pennsylvania's lay delegates to General Conference sessions of the years 1925 and 1933. Irvin Miller and Paul Patches followed Mr. Light as general superintendents of the school, Mr. Miller, serving a second term, is the present incumbent.

Trustees serving the church, following the first board elected, are: Jacob F. Wolf, Stanley Lewars, Charles Greenawalt, W. W. Spangler, Stewart Wood, John Harvey, and Leon Wolf. Mrs. Stewart Wood is president of the Woman's Missionary Association; Miss Mildred Walmer, president of the Otterbein Guild. The church has three Christian Endeavor Societies, Mrs. N. I. Fake being president of the Senior Society, and Miss Ethel Miller and Miss Josephine Demmy, superintendents of the Intermediates and Juniors, respectively. Mrs. Wood is Secretary of Literature, and Mrs. Earl Miller, Treasurer of the Conference Branch Missionary Society. The Rev. H. R. Blouch, at present serving as army chaplain, was voted quarterly conference license by this church.

Good music has always been an outstanding characteristic of Bethany congregation. Its present choir of young voices is in the front rank of good musical organizations.

Ministers appointed to this church were: Jacob P. Smith, 1903-06; D. D. Buddinger, 1906-12; S. B. Wengert, 1912-16; S. B. Wengert, D. T. Gregory, 1916-17; M. A. Wagner, 1917-18; G. W. Hallman, 1918-23; W. H. Smith, 1923-25; Paul Fridinger, 1925-30; H. W. Zechman, 1930-32; Harry Mark, 1932-34; Russell G. Bechtel, 1934-36; C. R. Longenecker, 1936-39, and N. I. Fake, 1939-46.

Lebanon Hebron Church

The name Hebron was given to a community in which the Moravian Brethren erected a church in 1749. In comparatively recent



Lebanon Hebron Church

times Lebanon's population has increased eastward so that at present Hebron is within Lebanon City limits. This new development known as "The Heights," and the recent growth of the original village of Hebron, presented an inviting field to the United Brethren. The area was altogether open territory, inasmuch as no denomination had occupied it since 1848 when the Moravians abandoned their old stone church and erected a new house of worship in the city.

Annual conference of 1909 authorized the organization of a class and appointed the Rev. Clint S. Miller to Hebron Mission. Initial steps for the establishing of a Mission had been taken by the Reverend Miller and some members of the Avon Church while he was their pastor during the year preceeding. A large lot located on the northwest corner of Fifth Avenue and Walnut Street was purchased during the summer of 1909 and excavation begun immediately. Dr. D. D. Lowery officiated at the laying of the cornerstone, October 10, 1909. A class of eighty-five members was organized, and during the period of construction, Church and Sunday School meetings were held in the Hebron Schoolhouse. The 12,000-dollar brick church building was completed by May, 1910 and dedicated by Bishop William M. Bell. Aaron Behney, Charles P. Bucks, Jacob Hitz, Allen Ross, and William Martin constituted the first trustee board.

A beautiful and commodious brick parsonage at 421 East Walnut Street, and a two-car garage, were erected on a lot adjoining the church property on the west. Dr. S. C. Enck dedicated the manse, September 15, 1929. The buildings and lot cost \$11,623. Depression

fears did not deter the congregation in this major church enterprise.

Extensive improvements were made to the church building in 1934, costing \$2,800. A new Hammond organ was dedicated on June 7, 1936 by the Rev. Dr. H. E. Miller. The cost of the organ plus other equipment and improvements amounted to \$1,078. Chimes, costing \$365, were added to the organ in 1939.

The congregation has had a steady, healthy growth, increasing to the number of 373 church members by the close of 1946, and a Sunday School enrollment of 610. Three of the original trustee board, Charles P. Bucks, William Martin, and Allen Ross have remained members of said board to the present. H. B. Shaak, and Albert Gingrich are the two additional members. There have been but two general Sunday School superintendents: Aaron Behney, and Charles Boeshore, the present incumbent. Daniel Ryland is treasurer of the School and Samuel Cook is secretary. Officers of the Women's Missionary Association are: president, Mrs. Theodore Brandt, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Daniel Ryland; of the Otterbein Guild, president, Betty Gerhart, treasurer, Rena Mae Miller, and secretary, Dorothy Hoffa. Alden G. Biely, Jr. is president of the Christian Endeavor Society.

John H. Gable, Edward T. Uhler, Calvin H. Reber, Jr., and Earl Reber were granted quarterly conference license upon recommendation by the Hebron congregation. The Revs. Uhler and Gable are serving charges within the conference. The Rev. Calvin H. Reber, Jr. is a missionary, stationed at Canton, China, and the Rev. Earl Reber, M. D. is in medical missionary work in Africa under appointment of the United Lutheran Church. The Rev. Alden G. Biely has been pastor of this church for twenty-one years, more than half of the length of the church's history, this being his first charge and the only one he has served. His predecessors were: C. S. Miller, 1909-10; E. J. Renshaw, O. T. Ehrhart, 1910-11; O. T. Ehrhart, 1911-20; D. D. Buddinger, H. E. Schaeffer, C. B. Mentzer, 1920-21; Ira W. Funk, 1921-22; J. A. Keiper, 1922-25.

Lebanon Glossbrenner Memorial Church

During the year 1884 a movement was set on foot to establish a third church in the city of Lebanon. Annual conference of the year following took action to that end and appointed the Rev. H. A. Buffington to open a new mission. A room in a building on the corner of Forge and Twelfth streets was rented, in which meetings were held for a period of six months. Meetings were then transferred to Brandywine and Twelfth streets where a tent had been erected for that purpose. In the year 1886 the Rev. W. H. Uhler took charge of the mission and a small chapel was erected where the tent had stood. An addition of twenty feet was added to the chapel in 1889 soon after the Rev. Amos Graul was appointed to serve the congregation.

A trustee board consisting of John Weaver, John Steckbeck, D. W. Zeller, David P. Rauch, and A. P. Hollinger bought a lot on the northwest corner of Lehman Street and Fall Alley and began building operations for a new church during the conference year 1889-90. Annual conference of 1889 cautioned the trustees "not to proceed faster than the means in hand will allow." The conference of the following year instructed the trustees "to accept the property on Lehman Street and to sell the property on the corner of Twelfth and Brandywine streets to best advantage."

Inasmuch as this was a conference mission project, conference made annual appropriations which from 1885 to 1890 amounted to \$1,575. The church membership at the end of the first year was nineteen and increased to 123 by the end of the fifth year.

During the year 1900 the house of worship was so thoroughly enlarged and renovated as to make it practically a new building. Improvements of a general nature were made in 1909 costing \$1,050. In 1926 a new Primary room was added to the Sunday School quarters, a gallery was constructed in the main audience room, a new heating system was installed, and a new carpet laid, at a total cost of \$9,000. A new Hammond electric organ was installed in 1936, costing \$1,355. Dr. H. E. Miller dedicated the organ June the eleventh. At the same time \$1,078 were expended for new furnishings and for redecorations. A brick residence located at 1040 Lehman Street was purchased in 1912 at the price of \$3,100 for the pastor's residence.

The list of laymen representing the congregation at annual conference sessions from 1887 to 1946 is as follows: John Weaver, Charles Wirt, D. W. Zeller, A. P. Hollinger, Mahlon Smith, Elam Kochler, A. D. Bechtel, Dr. H. E. Maulfair, Paul Kocher, J. Robert Blouch, J. M. Fisher, Mark A. Wagner, Oscar E. Muench, John B. Hollinger, William H. Boughter, Harrison Shuey, Samuel B. Fox, and Oscar Bowman. The trustee board of the present consists of: Harry Tice, Oscar Bowman, John B. Hollinger, Harry Clauser, and Victor Artz. Other lay people carrying forward the work of the congregation through official capacities are: Lloyd Blouch, George Steckbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Weinhold, Mrs. Oscar Bowman, Mrs. Victor Artz, Mrs. Emma Dunkelberger, Mrs. Ray Bowman, Lloyd Tompson, and Charles Witters. Mark A. Wagner, mentioned above as a lay delegate, was in 1915 granted annual conference license.

Lebanon Memorial Church and Lebanon St. Paul's formed a charge from 1887 to 1890. Ministers serving Lebanon Memorial have been: H. A. Buffington, 1885-86; W. H. Uhler, 1886-89; Amos Graul, 1889-92; Samuel Etter, Jr., 1892-93; J. R. Blecher, 1893-97; D. S. Longenecker, 1897-1904; S. B. Wengert, 1904-08; Amos Lehman, 1908-11; A. G. Nye, 1911-14; M. H. Jones, 1914-19; J. A. Keiper, 1919-21; H. M. Miller, 1921-26; W. E. Deibler, 1926-30; N. I. Fake, 1930-39; M. E. Patrich, 1939-44; and James Bingham, 1944-46.

Lebanon Pleasant Hill, St. John's Church

In a southwestern suburb of Lebanon City known as Pleasant Hill, on Center Street between Seventeenth and Eighteenth Streets, stands a house of worship which the conference named St. John's Church in 1897, and Pleasant Hill Church in 1906. A class of twenty-five members was organized in the year 1893 by the Rev. A. M. Hackman, while serving the Schaefferstown Circuit. Annual Conference, 1894, made it a charge, appointed the Rev. S. L. Rhoads, and made an appropriation of \$100 toward his salary. He served the class two years and under his leadership a frame church was erected, which was completed in the fall of 1895 at a cost of approximately \$3,000. Conference designated it a Mission Station in 1896 and appointed the Rev. L. R. Kramer. It remained in that classification two years and received an annual appropriation of \$300. At the close of the conference year 1897-98 there was a membership of eighty-nine, and a Sunday School enrollment of 190 pupils and eight teachers.

A tower and bell were placed in 1899. Several years later a metal ceiling was constructed. An annex, increasing the size of the seating room by about one-third, was built to the rear or north end of the building in 1925, costing \$6,000. Reopening services were held beginning Sunday, June 14, the Rev. S. L. Rhoads, former pastor, preaching the sermon. In 1938 the basement was remodeled and fitted out for Sunday School use, and a new heating plant was installed, at a cost of \$1,130.

The first trustee board was composed of John Clendenin, Isaac Rutter, and John Q. Miller. Their successors have been: Henry Dearwechter, Harry McKinney, William H. Boyer, John A. Beaver; and the present board: William J. Dearwechter, Charles H. Biever Sr., George L. Rutter, Wayne R. Miller, and Harold F. Dissinger Sr. Henry Dearwechter, Charles Hess, Cyrus Shott, John Boyer, George B. Simmers, William H. Sholly, John A. Biever, Charles H. Biever Sr., and James Grant have served as general superintendents of the Sunday School. Present heads of the department of Christian Education are: Adult, William C. Becker Sr.; Young People's, Harold F. Dissinger Sr.; Children's, Howard G. Lehman. David D. Dillman is president of the Brotherhood; Mrs. Wayner R. Miller, president of the Women's Missionary Association; Shirley Gamble, president of the Youth Fellowship; Gene Lehman of the Young People's Society; and Mrs. Harvey Lehman is superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. Raphael A. Gingrich and Chester W. Hartman were granted quarterly conference license.

The ministers appointed to Pleasant Hill as a charge, or as affiliated with other charges, are as follows: Lebanon Circuit (English), 1893-94; Pleasant Hill, 1894-98; S. L. Rhoads, 1894-96; L. R. Kramer, 1896-98; Lebanon Circuit (English), J. B. Daugherty, 1898-99; Pleasant Hill, L. R. Kramer, 1899-1901; West Lebanon, Jacob Runk, 1901-03; Pleasant Hill charge, Jacob Runk, 1903-04; Lebanon West and Pleasant Hill, M. H. Miller, 1904-06; Pleasant Hill charge, 1906-19,

P. L. Hains, 1906-08, W. H. Peiffer, 1908-10, W. H. Peiffer, Uriah Gambler, 1910-11, M. H. Wert, 1911-13, P. B. Gible, 1913-15, D. S. Longenecker, 1915-17, D. S. Longenecker, Thomas Garland, 1917-18, I. H. Albright, Thomas Garland, 1918-19; Cleona charge, 1919-46; Thomas Garland, 1919-21, S. Paul Weaver, 1921-23, Raymond Fortna, 1923-25, C. R. Longenecker, 1925-30, I. W. Funk, 1930-33, J. E. Keene, 1933-46.

Lebanon Salem Church

Salem Church, mother of churches, has played an important role in the origin and achievement of United Brethrenism in Lebanon County. The contributing factors which form its background have to some extent been recited in previous pages. In dealing now with this local church as a unit of organization certain details are added. These are the more necessary because of some errors of fact appearing in print. Furthermore, inasmuch as its first church building was the second east of the Susquehanna River in which United Brethren worshipped, we deem it of sufficient importance to give proper treatment to its significance.

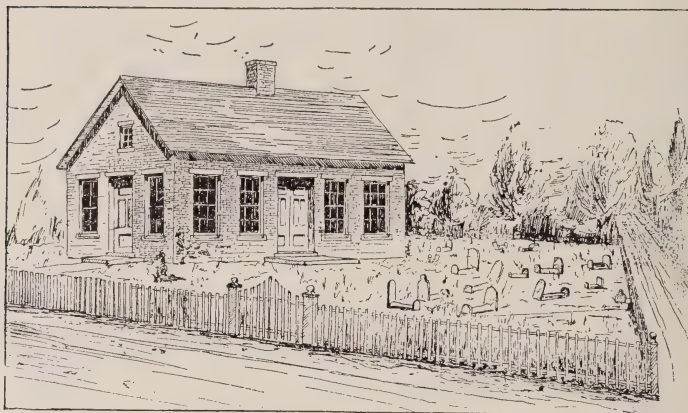
The brick building, 40 x 60 feet in size, constructed in 1817, was located on the east side of North Seventh Street, about 150 feet north of Lehman Street as of the present city plan. The deed by which the church lot was transferred states correctly the facts in which we are interested. It is dated May 26, 1817, and in abbreviated form is as follows:

Between Abraham Light of Lebanon township, Lebanon county, and Barbara his wife of the one part; and Felix Light, Martin Light, brothers of the said Abraham Light, and Abraham Light, Jr., son of the said Abraham Light, of the same place, yeomen, Trustees of the Menonist Society, settled, established, living, or residing in the said township in the county of Lebanon and its vicinity, on the other part.

Whereas the members of the said Menonite Society aforesaid have associated and agreed to build a meeting-house or House and place of public worship on the piece of land hereinafter described, now,

This Indenture witnesses: for consideration of five shillings, for the use, purpose, intend, benefit of the Menonist Society, religious fellowship, or community, (In margin written: "Denominated Menonists, in Lebanon township, Lebanon county and vicinity, as a place whereon to erect a meeting-house for the use of the said Society or Community) wherein to perform Divine services and religious worship.

All that parcel of land, part of the plantation of the said Abraham Light, situate in Lebanon township, Beginning at a stake in the road leading from the Borough of Lebanon to Stoevers Mill, thence by and along the said road, north seven degrees west eleven perches and three-tenths to a stake; thence by the land of the said Abraham Light, south



Light's Meetinghouse

**An Early pen-sketch after a description
given by Asaph S. Light
(See page 42)**

**This shows Seventh Street in the foreground
and the "Blue Mountain Road" at the right.
(Cut submitted by Arville G. Light)**

eighty-seven degrees east six perches to a white oak; thence by the same south eight degrees west seven and six-tenths perches to the road leading to the Blue mountains; thence by the land of said Abraham Light near by the said road south forty-five and one-half degrees west five and two-tenths perches to the place of beginning, containing forty-seven perches.

When the Borough of Lebanon was incorporated in 1821 its eastern boundary ran along the line of Abraham Light's tract. The northern borough line was run along the present Church Street, being the southern boundary of Hans Light's tract, beginning at Seventh Street and extending westerly. This left the meeting house outside of the borough boundaries. The road described as leading from the borough to Stoever's Mill (now Freeport Mills) is the present Seventh Street. The road branching off at an angle, described as the road leading to the Blue Mountains (To Mt. Zion) is no longer in existence. An old map of the year 1851 of lots and streets attests the facts of location and shows the location of the Blue Mountain Road, which at the time (1851) was called "Light Street."

In comment concerning the parties to the deed, it may be said that the grantor, Abraham Light Sr. and two of the grantees, Martin and Felix Light, were sons of John Light 2nd. Abraham Light Jr., the third grantee was a son of Abraham Light Sr., named as grantor. From this circumstance it was quite natural that this edifice should become traditionally known as "Light's Meeting House." Abraham Light Sr. was one of the first to receive the preachers of the Evangelical Association who came to Lebanon.

The Reverend John Seybert, presiding elder, organized the first Lebanon class for that denomination in the year 1826. A statement from the pen of W. W. Orwig relating to the formation of the class at Lebanon, gives additional evidence of the work of the Reverend Felix Light:

Two years previous to the formation of the first class there, a considerable revival had taken place, of which Father Felix Licht, a Mennonite preacher, Father P. Breidenstein, and his son John, were the principal instruments. Many were roused out of their lethargy, and began to inquire earnestly for the way of salvation. For some years they kept aloof from all Christian denominations, having been warned most emphatically against unity with any of them by certain preachers, who were known as Liberty men, Universalists, etc.⁴

Here then is further proof of the evangelical zeal and catholic spirit of Felix Light, and of the underlying forces which retarded organization of classes.

The recital of the transition from what might appear to be a purely Mennonite Society to a United Brethren organization is given in Chapter III. Suffice it to say in this connection that the class grew in numbers and influence. In the twenty-eight years intervening between the erection of the first and the second church buildings it won the support of the town inhabitants as well as of the rural folk. A resolution on record in the Salem Church Book sets forth these facts:

Whereas the old meeting house was quite inconvenient to the town, the foundation giving way, considerably, we saw proper to build, and by a quarterly conference held at J. L. Meyer's Campmeeting in 1845, with unanimous vote (decided) to build a new church in the Borough of Lebanon with the following arrangement: Building Committee, Tobias Kreider, Joseph Light, Thomas Light; Trustees, Rev. Casper Light, Abraham Light, William Light.

Two town lots on the southeastern corner of Church and Ninth Streets were purchased by deed dated September 17, 1845, at a cost of \$200 as a site for the new church. At the annual conference beginning February 12, 1845, the Reverend Christian Smith Crider was appointed to Lebanon Salem and remained three years. Under his administration the lot was bought and a two-story stone church erected. The corner stone was laid by the Reverend Simon Dressbach, then minister of Highspire Circuit, assisted by the pastor. The building was dedicated October 18, 1846 by Bishop John Russel, assisted by the Reverend George Miller of Pennsylvania Conference, and the pastor.

Trustees following those named above, from 1846 to 1879, in the order of their election were: Abraham Sherk, Peter Zimmerman. Peter Ulrich, John Funk. Cyrus Mutch, Michael Snyder, Daniel Kreider, John Kochenderfer, Joseph F. Light. Joseph Light, (J. S.), David L. Light, Josiah M. Gettle, Emanuel Dundore, Joseph

Bomberger, Abraham Miller, Philip Shaeffer, Rudolph Kreider, Jacob B. Rouch, Gideon Light, Moses Heilman, Joel Light, John Yingst, and Jacob Werner. A number of these were members of out-of-town classes.

This congregation from 1840 to 1842 was on the Lebanon Circuit. In 1842-43 Lebanon and Annville congregations formed a charge, but on conference records from 1843 onward, Lebanon Church is designated, "A Station." Through all the years, however, until 1903 when Bethany class was turned over to Annual Conference, classes other than those consisting of Salem members were a part of Lebanon Station. At the same time and until very recently, this church had four or more classes, each with its own leader and separate meetings. The average number of classes from 1848 to 1870 was ten—the minimum in any one year was seven, and the maximum thirteen. Trinity, Kochenderfers, Ebenezer, Avon, St. Paul's, and Bethany churches were developed from classes once belonging to Salem. The part that the Salem congregation had in their origin is stated in the sketches of these several churches.

As a matter of record, something may be written concerning the burial places of the sainted dead of the congregation. There was a cemetery on the old meeting house plot until the year 1876 when, the dead having been removed, the ground was sold for \$1,300 as building lots. In the year 1850 a burial plot—probably the oldest graveyard of the Light family—at Eleventh and Mifflin Streets came under the care of the church trustees through a bequest by the late Joseph Light. In that year the executors of the said Joseph Light, deceased, gave a deed for this plot to the church trustees in trust for the congregation. Four years later the trustees purchased an additional eighty-seven perches adjoining the original plot. In 1880 the trustees were given authority to sell the ground. By that year the congregation had possession of a new cemetery at Ebenezer. In this latter and in Mt. Lebanon Cemetery one can now find the tombstones which once marked the resting place of those interred in the two older cemeteries.

Six years after the new church was built the trustees were instructed to build a parsonage on one of the lots owned by the church. This house, constructed with materials from the old meeting house, was sold to Gideon Light at an appraised value of \$2,350, in 1869; and later resold to Salem's trustees. They then erected two new houses, sold one of them and the old parsonage, and retained the other for a parsonage, which has been the pastor's residence since 1873. It has passed through several stages of remodeling and enlarging.

Salem congregation organized one of the earliest Sunday Schools in the conference. At annual conference session January 12-15, 1854 it was decided by resolution "That the \$30.00 collected by the Sabbath School in Lebanon shall according to their request be appropriated to establish Sabbath Schools in Oregon." A similar amount was given by the Lebanon School the following year to be used to establish a School in Kansas Territory. Abraham Sherk



Lebanon Salem Church

was the first general superintendent. Stephen Light, Samuel Peters, Boaz W. Light, William Lenich, John B. Spangler, Thomas G. Spangler, and Cyrus Yingst followed Mr. Sherk in that capacity. In the last fifty years there have been but three general superintendents: Clinton E. Boltz, 1896-1906; Edward P. Strickler, 1906-44; and J. Anson Wilhelm, 1944-46. As early as 1850 increased attendance was stressed by special action in quarterly conference, and the Sunday School has had a continued steady growth, reaching a peak of 1,509 in enrollment and 810 in average attendance in 1934.

In organized work with young people this congregation also set the pace. Before Christian Endeavor was known, its pastor, the Reverend Ezekiel Light reported to the quarterly conference that early in the year 1878 he "organized a Young People's Christian Association with about eighty members who were nearly all young

people and children. Its object was to attract the young folks to the church and to train them for active work, as also to lead the unconverted to Christ." It was divided into three departments: Children's, Seekers, and Christian Workers. This was probably the second organization of its kind in the denomination, being preceded by one organized in First Church, Dayton, Ohio, in 1871, known as a Young Men's Christian Association, then later changed to a Young People's Christian Association.

The house of worship erected in 1845-46 was remodeled in 1873 at a cost of \$3,289.03. In the fall of 1885 the Reverend David S. Longenecker was appointed to Salem Church. During his four years as pastor he received 375 members and the Sunday School enrollment rose from 528 to 800. The stone church had become quite inadequate, consequently, in the first year of the Reverend H. S. Gabel's pastorate, plans were made to tear it down and to erect a brick structure. The last sermon heard in the old church was preached by the Reverend Henry Schropp some months before his death which occurred November 17, 1890. He had been pastor 1851-54. At the time this sermon was preached brother Schropp was in his eightieth year and was living in retirement in Lebanon.

The occasion was deeply memorable, the old church, the old pastor, his old companions, most of them dead to the world but alive to him at this hour, the old story of the cross so powerfully and sweetly inspired him that his hearers, although accustomed to, and anticipating a more than ordinarily grand effort from him, were spellbound as the gospel of Christ flowed from his warm heart and eloquent lips, filling them with sublime delight, holy awe, and divine reverence.⁵

The corner stone was laid July 6, 1890 by the presiding elder, James Shoop, assisted by pastor Gabel, and the Reverend Samuel Etter Jr. On December 21, 1890 the first story was formally opened for divine worship by the Reverend C. J. Kephart. On Sunday May 15, 1892 the completed building was dedicated by Bishop E. B. Kephart, assisted by the Reverends James Shoop, James G. Fritz, and the pastor. The structure cost \$18,700.

The Reverend Harry E. Miller, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume, began his ministry in the fall of 1904. Under the leadership of his immediate predecessor, Dr. I. H. Albright, the congregation had begun the work of redecorating the auditorium, recarpeting the floor, and installing a large pipe organ. This work was completed in Dr. Miller's first year. During the second and third years a spacious Sunday School Chapel was erected costing \$10,000. Major renovations costing \$6,000 were made in 1916. Very extensive exterior and interior constructions were completed in 1930, costing \$45,000. The final touch of the hand, heart and mind of pastor Miller to the temple in which he for so many years preached a compelling gospel was given by the installation of a beautiful memorial chancel with all its appropriate sacred appointments. On the day of consecration, May 5, 1940, Bishop G. D. Batdorf consummated this devoted endeavor by imposing dedicatory ceremonies.

This church exceeds all others of the conference in supplying men for the ministry. Those who became members of annual conference are as follows: Felix Light, Casper Light, John Light, Henry Light, Jacob Doerkson, Rudolph Light, Jacob Snively, Peter L. Zimmerman, Ephraim Light, Joseph F. Light, Ezekiel Light, G. D. A. Garman, John W. Boughter, Joel Light, Job Light, Jonas Knoll, Samuel B. Wengert, Harry E. Miller, Ira E. Albert, Samuel A. Rauch, Harry E. Schaeffer, Harry F. Boeshore, Harry H. Fertig, Harry C. Mark, Russel L. Shay, Ira Fortna, Alden G. Biely, Raymond G. Uhrich, Marvin Schell, James O. Bemederfer, Paul A. Miller, Harry J. P. Himmelberger, and Samuel Bemederfer. Quarterly conference license was also granted to Mark Light, Earl Tschudy, and Brunner Tschudy. Among those who received license as local preachers are: John Light, John Fees, Joseph Light, Tobias Kreider, Calvin V. Boger, Frank J. Heisey, Samuel Bemederfer, J. Anson Wilhelm, and Richard P. Zimmerman.

Mrs. John F. Mussleman, Miss Susan Bachman, and Miss Mabel Beckley have gone forth as missionaries to foreign fields from this congregation.

Outstanding laymen who have given an excellent quality of service over extended periods of time, other than those already named, are as follows: William P. Kimmel, superintendent of the Primary School, forty years; John Adams, Sunday School teacher, 1894-1946, financial secretary, 1895-46, Junior Christian Endeavor superintendent forty-two years; Charles D. Kimmel, Sunday School chorister, 1906-1946; Harry Adams, secretary of the Seminar Bible Class, 1892-46; R. V. Schanbacher, secretary of official board, 1902-46. So far as Sunday School attendance is concerned, Aden Light had a record of perfect attendance over a period of fifty-eight years and six weeks. He entered into rest February 16, 1946. Church trustees not previously mentioned are: Abrahamn Herr, Amos Adams, Tobias Kreider, Jacob H. Light, Jacob Nye, George Bachman, Harry S. Burgner, Harry B. Dougherty, Charles Spahr, and Rank K. Donmoyer.

Thomas G. Spangler, Edward Strickler, and John Adams have been lay delegates of the annual conference to the General Conference.

Ministers appointed by annual conference to serve Lebanon First, or Salem Church from the time such appointments were first made until 1840 were those of Lancaster Circuit. While the Lebanon Church was a part of Lebanon Circuit, Jacob Rupp was its minister, 1840-41; and Philip Fry and Christian Peffley, 1841-42. John Light served the Lebanon-Annville charge, 1842-43. From 1843 onward, ministers appointed to Lebanon Salem were: John Light, 1843-45; Christian S. Crider, 1845-48; John A. Sand, 1848-51; Henry Schropp, 1851-54; George W. Hoffman, 1854-57; David Hoffman, 1857-60; John Stamm, W. J. Leacock, 1860-61; Andrew Steigerwalt, C. J. Burkert, John Stamm, 1861-62; Andrew Steigerwalt, D. A. Tawney, Ezekiel Light, 1862-63; J. B. Daugherty, L. W. Craumer, 1863-64; J. B. Daugherty, H. B. Winton, 1864-65; J. B. Daugherty, 1865-66; Jacob

H. Mark, 1866-69; Henry H. Gelbach, 1869-72; Jacob Runk, 1872-74; James Shoop, 1874-77; Ezekiel Light, 1877-79; J. P. Smith, 1879-82; Uriah Gambler, 1882-85; D. S. Longenecker, 1885-89; H. S. Gabel, 1889-94; J. H. VonNieda, 1894-96; J. P. Smith, 1896-99; Jacob Runk and I. E. Runk, 1899-1900; Jacob Runk and R. R. Butterwick, 1900-01; I. H. Albright, 1901-04; H. E. Miller, 1904-39; H. E. Miller and Paul A. Miller, 1939-42; H. E. Miller, 1942-45; E. M. Rhoad, and H. E. Miller, pastor emeritus, 1945-46.

Lebanon Trinity Church

The German language was used almost exclusively in public worship by our brethren in Lebanon until about 1860. Not only in this county but throughout the entire conference, our denomination was to a degree handicapped by this restriction. The brethren of the Salem Church began to take note of the growing demand for preaching in the English language. Consequently a motion was passed at a quarterly held December 26, 1859 "that we form an English class, and that we make a request that Annual Conference give us an English Mission." The first part of this double motion was immediately carried into effect. The second part was delayed seven years. Annual conference appointed English speaking preachers over the period, 1860-1864, who served as assistants to the minister in charge. W. J. Leacock, C. J. Burkert, D. A. Tawney and H. B. Winton served in this capacity.

In 1865 H. B. Winton, Abraham Sherk, Cyrus Mutch, Jacob B. Rauch, and Felix H. Light were appointed trustees for a contemplated English church in Lebanon. Annual conference of the year 1866 placed on its list of charges Lebanon English Mission Station and assigned G. W. Miles Rigor to the work. In 1867 the Mission was named "Lebanon Trinity." At a quarterly conference held in Salem Church, August 8, 1866, attended by the officers of first and second churches, a committee consisting of one person from each of Salem's eleven classes, was appointed to secure subscriptions to the amount of \$5,300 for the erection of a house of worship for the new congregation.

Fifty-nine of Salem's members, divided into two classes, constituted the nucleus for this new mission. From among its members, Josiah M. Gettle, Jacob B. Rauch, Felix H. Light, Abraham Sherk, and Daniel Weaver were elected a new board of trustees who, by deed dated April 1, 1867, purchased a lot on the northeast corner of Ninth and Willow Streets for the sum of \$5,250. The cornerstone for the new structure was laid in July, the Reverend W. S. H. Keys officiating. In the spring of 1868 the lecture and class rooms of the church were finished, and formally dedicated by Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner; and on the 23rd day of May, 1869, during the session of General Conference which met in Salem Church, Bishop Jonathan Weaver preached the dedicatory sermon in the sanctuary or second floor of the new church. The following Sabbath, the balance needed to pay off the debt (\$8,000) was secured in subscriptions, and Trinity Church was solemnly dedicated to Almighty God.



Lebanon Trinity Church

The Reverend Rigor appointed in 1866 remained with this congregation four years. During his pastorate the membership increased

from 59 to 139, and the school enrollment reached 230 including officers and teachers. During the Reverend Daniel Eberly's pastorate, in 1874-75, a tower surmounted by a spire 157 feet high was constructed and the church otherwise improved. The presiding elder in his report to annual conference commented thus: "For symmetry, beauty, and convenience Trinity is unsurpassed by any house of worship among the United Brethren in Christ." In 1885 the interior was badly damaged by fire which necessitated extensive repairs and complete redecoration. Seven years later the parsonage, which had been a part of the church plant from the beginning, was enlarged, and additional rooms for Sunday School use were provided. In 1900 the church and parsonage were again remodeled, a pavement, curb, and gutter were laid at an expense of \$5,500. Two years later a large pipe organ was installed and its cost, plus some remaining debt, totaling \$6,000, was paid.

Trinity congregation observed a Golden Jubilee Anniversary during the week of June 24 to July 1, 1917, with special services. Former pastors—Bishop C. J. Kephart, Dr. C. I. B. Brane, Associate Editor of the Religious Telescope, and the Reverend Z. A. Weidler shared in the sacred festivities of the occasion. The pastor, Dr. B. F. Daugherty, and the trustees, Asaph S. Light, John H. Fisher, John Hunsicker Sr., John H. Seltzer, and George B. Marquart constituted the committee on arrangements. The following year Mr. and Mrs. John Hunsicker Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. John Hunsicker Jr., presented the congregation with a new pipe organ in memory of Thomas Hunsicker. Its value was \$4,800. Improvements costing \$2,800 were made during the same year. Over the period 1924-27, renovations, reconstructions, and new furnishings cost \$11,621.97. Additional property next to the parsonage was purchased in 1930.

When Trinity's 75th anniversary came around another celebration was held. The committee planning for it were: the Reverend M. H. Wert, pastor; and the trustees, J. Walter Esbenschade, John Hunsicker Jr., J. S. Boudier, and C. W. Rettew. Two charter members had the extreme pleasure of witnessing seventy-five years of congregational development: Mrs. George B. Marquart, aged ninety-two, and Harry Shay, aged eighty-seven. The latter found great delight in relating his experience of coming to Trinity Sunday School barefooted to ford the Quittapahilla Creek at Strickler's Mill on North Ninth Street. Mrs. Marquart was a teacher of a ladies' class for many years. A few weeks before the anniversary occasion she participated in a program of "The Friendly Circle Bible Class," reciting several hymns which were sung in Trinity School when she was in her teens.

The Sunday School from its beginning has had some of the best facilities for effective instruction. It has always enjoyed the benefit of close organization and efficient supervision. Its general superintendents were: Asaph S. Light, George B. Marquart, Elmer E. McCurdy, John Hunsicker Sr., John H. Seltzer, Harvey Barnhart, C. A. Boyer, Samuel D. Clark, and Joseph S. Boudier.

Appreciation and rendition of the best type of sacred music has

been characteristic of Trinity Church. For the past forty years the choir has been very capably directed by John Hunsicker Jr. He was preceded in that role by Major H. P. Moyer. Ella Moyer, Lillian Burkey, George Grant, Mabel Walmer, and Marion Light are among those who have presided at the organ. In very recent years a junior choir has furnished some very fine music under the leadership of Mrs. S. D. Evans.

The Reverends S. L. Rhoads, and Bruce Souders, ordained elders of the conference, received their first license by vote of this congregation. The Honorable Elmer E. McCurdy and wife gave \$1,000 as a memorial to apply on a chapel and school room at Santa Cruz, New Mexico. It became known as "The Edith M. McCurdy Mission Chapel" in honor of their deceased daughter.

More than one-fourth of this church's history was made during one pastorate—that of the Reverend B. F. Daugherty, D. D., (1862-1944) who served from 1911 to 1934. By educational evangelism, preaching of sound doctrine, untiring visitation, and careful oversight of administrative affairs, he exercised an effective ministry. His two other pastorates were with Baltimore Fifth Church, 1891-94; and Harrisburg Otterbein, 1894-97. He was professor of Latin Language and Literature at Lebanon Valley College for a period of ten years. From 1906 to 1911 he was president of Westfield College, Illinois. He represented East Pennsylvania Annual Conference as delegate to the General Conferences of 1921 and 1929, and was a member of the general boards of Christian Education, and Church Trustees. Trinity Church prospered under his leadership and revere his memory.

The complete list of pastors is as follows: G. W. Miles Rigor, 1866-70; W. S. H. Keys, 1870-74; Daniel Eberly, 1874-76; Lewis Peters, 1876-77; Lewis Peters, J. T. Shaffer, 1877-78; J. T. Shaffer, 1878-81; M. P. Doyle, 1881-85; J. W. Etter, 1885-89; C. J. Kephart, 1889-94; Z. A. Weidler, R. Rock, 1894-95; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1895-96; C. I. B. Brane, 1896-1906; S. E. Rupp, 1906-11; B. F. Daugherty, 1911-34; M. H. Wert, 1934-42; and M. G. Sponsler, 1942-46.

Lebanon West, St. Paul's Church

The Reverend D. S. Longenecker, in the second year of his pastorate at Salem Church, opened an appointment at West Lebanon. A lot was purchased in the extreme western limits of the community on Lehman Street. On this lot a small frame chapel was erected whose cornerstone was laid on Sunday afternoon, December 18, 1886, by presiding elder Amos Graul and pastor Longenecker. On December 17 of the following year, the Reverend Longenecker reported to the quarterly conference that he

Commenced a revival at West Lebanon eight weeks ago which is still in progress, forty-nine penitents were at the altar of whom the greater part have professed conversion. I have organized a class of twenty-four members. The number will be increased in the near future. William Runkle has been elected class leader and John Gross steward. The Sunday

School has so far been conducted by the superintendents and pastor of this church, but we expect to form a permanent organization on the first of January.

Later records show that D. H. Dillman was elected the first local superintendent of the Sunday School.

May 24, 1890, the official board of Salem Church voted to transfer the chapel and grounds to the trustees of St. Paul's: D. H. Dillman, D. W. Zeller, and John Gross. For this act of courtesy and generosity the above trustees, in behalf of the members of St. Paul's and of the West Lebanon community in general, expressed ardent thanks to Salem Church by special resolution passed at quarterly conference.

In 1893 the Reverend J. H. Mark became pastor. In 1894-95 he received eighty-one church members and the Sunday School reached an enrollment of 203. The building was renovated; and reopened September 8, 1894. The church had four prayer meeting classes, whose leaders were: the pastor, M. H. Miller, who later became a member of annual conference and minister at St. Paul's, F. R. Fertig, and William Templin. The members of brother Templin's class were under the watch care of the church. George Lingle, Jacob Frantz, Thomas Clark Sr., and William Templin were the class stewards, while Aaron Reed was the general steward.

During the Reverend H. E. Miller's pastorate, in 1898, an eighteen foot annex and a tower were erected, and the entire building renovated, at a cost of \$1,168.19. A Junior Christian Endeavor and a Woman's Missionary Association were organized during the Reverend C. E. Boughter's term, and an Intermediate Society under the Reverend Mark G. Holtzman. Gideon R. Blough was granted quarterly license to preach the gospel on December 14, 1910, and P. B. Gible, student pastor at St. Paul's, was recommended for annual license April 14, 1913.

St. Paul's is the only church in a community of more than a thousand people, consequently it has always had a large Sunday School constituency. For years the building was inadequate to properly house the School and it was not advisable to renovate or enlarge it. Steps were therefore taken in the fall of 1932 to erect a new one. The trustees, Cyrus Gross, Charles Lilly, Raymond Miller, William Carmany, and Levi Houtz, together with the pastor, were constituted a building committee. David S. Funk of Palmyra, member of Campbelltown Church, was appointed an advisory member of the committee and given supervision of the building project. Architectural plans having been completed and financial arrangements having been made, ground-breaking ceremonies were held April 9, 1933.

The cornerstone was laid June 25th. The new brick structure, well adapted for worship and graded Sunday School instruction, was dedicated by Bishop G. D. Batdorf, November 26, 1933. The Reverend H. E. Miller, and Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, also had part in the day's services. The building cost \$20,218.06. Within two years after completion the building was severely jolted by an



Lebanon Bethany Church



West Lebanon Church

explosion of a large quantity of powder stored for quarrying operations, about a half mile to the west. The repair bill amounted to \$500, half of which amount was covered by the Powder Company's insurance.

The Reverend E. E. Bender (1881-1944) was minister of the church when this building was erected. It was largely due to his boundless energy that the work was begun and completed. He began his work as a minister in 1910, having previously given some years to teaching in the public schools. His ministry came to a close at St. Paul's March 7, 1944, when he was unexpectedly called to his eternal reward.

David H. Dillman, Sunday School superintendent, teacher, trustee, secretary of the quarterly conference, and lay delegate to annual conference, gave strong lay-leadership to this congregation from the time of its organization until his death, January 31, 1921. In addition to lay members serving in several official capacities above mentioned, Mrs. George Lenge, Misses Anna and Fannie Gingrich, Mr. and Mrs. William Donley, Augustus Miller, Augustus Becker, are among those who have given long and faithful service. William Donley, Jacob Frantz, Wilson Haag, and Warren Clemens composed a quartet which sang the praises of God to the delight of many.

Three names for this church appear on annual conference minutes: Lebanon Fourth, St. Paul's, and West Lebanon. In recent years West Lebanon is most frequently used. Its connection with charges and the ministers appointed is as follows: Lebanon Salem, D. S. Longenecker, 1886-88; Lebanon Circuit, F. H. Ruloff, 1888-89; West Lebanon, L. W. Craumer, 1889-90; West Lebanon and Memorial, 1890-93, Amos Gaul, 1890-92, Samuel Etter Jr., 1892-93; West Lebanon, 1893-1901, J. H. Mark, 1893-95, Uriah Gambler, 1895-97; H. E. Miller, 1897-99; C. E. Boughter, 1899-1901; West Lebanon and Pleasant Hill, Jacob Runk, 1901-03; West Lebanon, J. Warren Kauffman,

1903-04; West Lebanon and Pleasant Hill, M. H. Miller, 1904-06; West Lebanon, M. H. Miller, 1906-08, D. S. Longenecker, 1908-09, Mark G. Holtzman, 1909-10, Mark G. Holtzman, P. B. Gible, 1910-11, P. B. Gible, 1911-13; C. H. Holzinger, 1913-15; H. A. Smith, 1915-17, Roy C. Spangler, 1917-19, Harry Crim, J. T. Spangler, 1919-20, J. T. Spangler, 1920-21, F. C. Aungst, 1921-24, S. H. Ralston, 1924-25; Lebanon West and Campbelltown, S. H. Waltz, 1925-30, S. H. Waltz, C. A. Mutch, 1930-31, James Bingham, 1931-32, E. E. Bender, 1932-34; Lebanon West, E. E. Bender, 1934-43; E. E. Bender, A. K. Wier, 1943-44, A. K. Wier, 1944-45, and F. G. Flurer, 1945-46.

Lemberger's Emanuel Church, East Hanover Township

Aaron Albert and wife Mary of East Hanover Township granted one acre of ground for the nominal sum of one dollar, in the year 1879, to Ephraim Burgner, David Hetrich, and Michael Houser, trustees, for the erection of a church. It was erected in 1880 and named after the Lemberger family, of whom Lyon Lemberger lived nearby. The Rev. Benjamin K. Keck was minister of the Bellegrove circuit to which the class was attached when organized and the building erected. Its location is just beyond the western limits of the Indian-town Gap Military Reservation.

During the summer of 1919, improvements and repairs were made costing \$2,000. These consisted of new oak pews, new carpet, and repainting. The pastor, the Rev. George Hess was in charge of special services of reopening. On Saturday night, July 28, Dr. H. E. Miller was the guest preacher, and on the Sabbath following, Dr. S. C. Enck preached at the morning hour of worship and the Rev. M. H. Jones in the evening.

Albert Mickey is the Sunday School superintendent. The trustees are, Lee Mickey, Aaron Rhoad, A. L. Behney, Norman Books, and David Hauser. At the close of the conference year 1945-46, there is a membership roll of fifty-four members, and the Sunday School reports an average attendance of forty. Drs. H. F. Rhoad and E. M. Rhoad received quarterly conference licenses by vote of the Lemberger's class.

The church has been affiliated with the following circuits: Bellegrove, 1779-1882; Jonestown, 1882-87; Fishing Creek, 1887-88; Jonestown, 1888-99; Bellegrove 1899-1901; Grantville, 1901-03; Lickdale, 1903-06; Grantville, 1906-34; and Lickdale, 1934-46.

Lickdale Grace Church

John Binkley, pastor of Bellegrove Circuit, in the year 1869 organized a class known as "Union Forge Class," Union Forge being the name at the time of the village now named Lickdale. During one year only, 1869-70, does the name of this class appear on quarterly conference records. The name of Henry Bohn is listed as its steward and he reported certain sums of money as contributions to the pastor's salary. The close proximity of Union Salem and Monroe Valley classes probably accounts for the brief existence of the Union Forge class. In time, however, the center of the larger



Lemberger's Church



Lickdale Church

population and the location of a site along a more traveled route won out over its contemporary rivals, in the establishing of a permanent work.

F. J. Butterwick with the support of a few loyal brethren—"by dint of hard effort against internal prejudice and opposition," so the presiding elder reports, succeeded in organizing a class and in erecting a church building. The building was dedicated in the month of September in the year 1901. E. E. Arnold, J. G. Bohn, and A. W. Donmoyer constituted its first board of trustees. Members of the board at present are, Herbert Yost, Mrs. Bertha Soliday, Robert Weirich, Mrs. John E. Harnley; and Margaret Groh who also, since 1929, has been superintendent of the Sunday School.

The church has been attached to the following circuits: Belle-grove, 1901-03; Lickdale, 1903-06; Grantville, (Dauphin County), 1906-07, Jonestown, 1907-22; and Lickdale, 1922-46.

Mountville Church, Swatara Township

The Mountville Church, earlier known as "Black Oak Hill Church," located along the old Lebanon-Jonestown Road about two miles south of the latter town, was erected in 1863. Prior to that the class held services over a period of about ten years in a school-house which stood a few rods north of the present edifice. David Light, son of Peter light, donated land for the building but never gave a deed for the same. Through the courtesy of Mr. Light's heirs, the church trustees secured proper title in 1940. Henry Light, Andrew Boltz and John Light were appointed trustees for the "Mount-

ville Meeting House," February 13, 1864. Henry Light, Benjamin Boltz, George Emrich, and Joseph Koons were its early class leaders. S. W. Gelbach was first elected in 1897, and with the exception of two years, due to illness in his family, held this office until the present, Miles Light taking his place during those two years. Class stewards serving in the early years were: David Light, Charles Lantz, Amos Fox, Adam H. Light, Josiah Moyer, and Henry Sholly.

The Sunday School, at first holding sessions during the summer months only, was organized while the class met in the schoolhouse. Isaac Koons, John Meily, George Feaser, Isaac Gingrich, Thomas W. Runkle, W. O. Sholly, and John F. Smith have been its general superintendents. The Missionary Society was first organized during the ministry of the Rev. P. M. Holdeman. (It was reorganized, March 18, 1917, with twenty-three members.) Mrs. John F. Smith was its first president, and Mrs. M. C. Winters heads the organization at present.

There have been several additional acquisitions of property. In 1928 eighteen perches of land for parking space were purchased for the sum of \$280. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Meily donated eight perches and 156 square feet for a drive and additional parking area, in 1940. The old cemetery lot, originally the property of the Evangelical Association was deeded to the United Brethren in the same year. Anticipating transfer of title, a cemetery trustee board consisting of John Darkes, Walter Meily, Martin Meily, Harry Emrich, and Mason Koons, was organized in 1936.

The original structure was extensively remodeled and enlarged in 1940. A sixteen by forty foot addition including tower, was erected, the corner stone being laid with appropriate exercises by Dr. S. C. Enck, on July 29th. Remodelings consisted of facing the front with brick, placing of a new slate roof, constructing a room as a partial second story in the south gable, and decoration of the sanctuary. New equipment installed consisted of furnace, electric lights, chairs, pews, carpet, chancel furniture, and purchase of a piano and hymn books. Expenditures amounted to \$8,182.74 in money, and many hours of labor by members were donated. A week of elaborate services marked the reopening, and on the Sabbath following, December 1, Dr. Enck rededicated the house of worship. The Rev. C. R. Swartz, pastor, was chairman of the committee which carried forward this work and he had associated with him, Thomas W. Runkle, John F. Smith, M. C. Winters, Robert Heisey; and John W. Darkes, the builder.

John Light, trustee and class leader over a long period, was also a local preacher. Isaac B. Koons received quarterly license by vote of the Mountville class in 1885. The Reverend Koons was in the active work of the ministry, with the exception of ten years, from 1886 to 1931, and served the following circuits: Lehigh, Northampton, Sinking Springs, Grantville, Bellegrove and Lickdale. He was the last of conference preachers to possess a good command of the German language, and because of this he had many calls from our

own and other denominations to preach in German on special occasions. His gift in the use of pointed illustrations was remarkable, and his interchanging employment of humor and pathos greatly moved his audiences.

The Mountville Church has been affiliated with the following Circuits: Lebanon, 1850-1863; Bellegrove, 1863-1871; Jonestown, 1871-82; Lebanon, 1882-1903; and Bellegrove, 1903-46.

Myerstown Church

The Rev. Samuel Enterline, while pastor of Lebanon Circuit, after several unsuccessful attempts to secure a preaching appointment in a home in Myerstown, finally decided, in the spring of 1843, to preach at the village crossroad. At the close of the service Mr. John Daniels, who was somewhat under the influence of strong drink, invited the minister to preach at his house on his next visit to the community. The invitation was accepted, and on April 25, 1843, the Reverend Enterline preached at Mr. Daniel's house and stayed with Daniel Myers for the night. During the night the preacher was sent for by Mr. and Mrs. John Myers, whom he found in deep distress on account of conviction of sin. Before morning both were happily converted and became the firstfruits of United Brethren preaching at Myerstown.

In a revival service which followed at the home of the John Myers family, about thirty persons were converted, among whom was this same Mr. Daniels who was the first to open his home to the itinerant preacher. A class was organized on October 13 of that year, consisting of John and Sarah Myers, Daniel and Catharine Myers, Daniel Myers Jr., Susan B. Myers, Jonas and Nancy Eckert, John and Anna Mary Daniels, Nicholas and Catharine Eckert, and Catharine Gamble.

During the following year the class decided to erect a house of worship. A lot fronting 60 feet on South Cherry Street with a depth of 180 feet was sold to the trustees, John Myers, John Daniels, and Jonas Eckert, by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Myers for the consideration of fifty dollars which amount they returned to the trustees as their donation toward the expense of erecting a church. A one-story structure was erected thereon in 1844. Four years later when the church was attached to Lebanon Salem Church, the trustees were, Daniel Myers, J. Zinn, and G. Lindemuth.

The stone building served the congregation until 1869 when a lot of ground located on East Main Street, known as the "Wolf Plot" was purchased and a two-story brick church was erected. Plans called for a building 40 by 70 feet, which, when completed, cost \$8,000. This represented quite a large expenditure for our people in those days. George Zeller, a member of the Mt. Aetna church, made a pledge of \$1,600 and Christian Groh, class leader of the local congregation pledged a like amount. Other members and friends of the church supported the enterprise so generously that the church could be dedicated free of debt. The building committee included the pastor, Rev. L. W. Craumer, Benjamin Artz, and



Myersstown Church

Christian Groh. The old church lot was sold for \$400. Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner laid the cornerstone early in the spring of 1869 and dedicated the church January 1, 1870.

Rather numerous alterations and additions have been made to this house of worship. In 1902 a small chapel, 20 x 30 feet in size

was built adjoining the main building on its west for use as a Junior room and Christian Endeavor Society meetings, and the entire interior of the original was redecorated. A pipe organ, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, Isaac B. and Mary Haak, and the Rev. A. M. Blecher family, was installed in 1905. Its value plus extensive improvements made at the time represented an increase of property value of \$4,800. Six years later the former small chapel was replaced by a larger one, 47 by 50 feet, with galleries and other facilities for Sunday School work, at a cost of \$10,176.27.

In a comparatively short time further reconstructions and better physical equipment seemed advisable. Consequently a new slate roof was placed on the building in 1928. In August of the same year a committee consisting of Edgar M. Landis, Elmer L. Haak, John D. Ebling, Harry L. Lehman, Harry K. Zinn and John H. Schell, was appointed and authorized to proceed with the work of a general remodeling. Pastor D. E. Long, though not named on this committee, in his characteristic masterful way of working behind the scenes, had much to do in launching and bringing to a successful completion the following: enlarging, rebuilding, and relocating of pipe organ, changing choir loft, rebuilding stairways, changing method of opening the art windows, placing new ceiling in the auditorium, new chairs in the chapel, new indirect lighting system, new carpet, new pulpit furniture, refinishing of interior woodwork, and refreshing of walls. A week of reopening services began on July 7, and closed on July 14, 1929. Bishop G. D. Batdorf, Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, and former pastors, Doctors I. M. Hershey, O. L. Mease, and H. E. Miller, were guest preachers during the week, and Prof. Harry Wilhelm, a local musician, gave an organ recital.

This enterprise cost the congregation \$20,000. By excellent cooperation on the part of individuals and church organizations during the remodeling and on annual ingathering occasions, the church debt was paid by 1937.

The congregation's first parsonage was a house adjacent to the church on the west. This was renovated in 1903. A new vapor heating system with automatic control was installed in 1929. It was replaced by a fuel oil heating plant in 1941, costing \$604. In 1942, the Isaac B. Haak dwelling located directly east of the church was purchased for the sum of \$5,550, and renovations were subsequently made costing \$3,800. This exceptionally fine manse occupied by the present pastor, the Rev. C. R. Longenecker and wife, was dedicated by Dr. Enck on April 19, 1942.

The Myerstown Church in its spiritual and material progress has had the loyal support of many devoted lay members. Among those more widely known were Mr. and Mrs. Isaac B. Haak. Mrs. Haak was a great worker in the local church, and was the first treasurer of the East German Conference Branch, a position which she held over a period of thirty-six years, including the years serving in East Pennsylvania Branch. Mr. Haak held many positions of trust in the local church and in annual conference organization. His contribu-

tions to special local projects stimulated others to larger giving. He represented East German Conference as a lay delegate to the General Conference sessions of 1893 and 1901. A memorial tablet, in recognition of the devotion and work of these two servants of God, was placed in the church sanctuary at Myerstown in 1920.

Among church personnel serving in official capacity as of the year 1943, are the following: trustees: Edgar M. Landis, Harry L. Lehman, Harry F. Dundore, Isaac J. Gass, and John D. Ebling; general Sunday School superintendent: John H. Schell, Intermediate, Irene Schell, Primary, Mrs. Neal Donley, Beginners, Grace I. Dundore, Cradle Roll, Mrs. Thomas Batdorf, Home Department, Mrs. John Clay; Christian Endeavor Society superintendents: Senior, John S. Riddle, Intermediate, Esther M. Dundore, Junior, Grace I. Dundore; Women's organizations: Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. Edgar M. Landis, Otterbein Guild, Grace I. Dundore, Counselor, Mrs. C. R. Longenecker, and Ladies' Aid, Mrs. Verna Straw.

From 1844 to 1849 the Myerstown church was attached to Lebanon Salem Church, and its ministers were: John Light, 1844-45; Christian S. Crider, 1845-48, and John A. Sand, 1848-49. In 1849 a new charge, the third to be organized in Lebanon County, was created of classes and churches in the eastern end of the county, and named for this church—"Myerstown Circuit." Ministers serving the Myerstown Church from that year to the present are: Jacob Roop, 1849-50; Solomon VonNieda, 1850-52; G. A. Mark Sr., 1852-54; Christian Peffley and Christian Siegrist, 1854-55; Henry Schropp, 1855-56; David Moyer, 1856-59; Andrew Steigerwalt and Ephraim Light, 1859-60; David Hoffman, 1860-61; James G. Fritz, 1861-63; Andrew Steigerwalt, 1863-64; Lewis Fleisher, 1864-67; L. W. Craumer, 1867-71; H. E. Hackman, 1871-72; J. W. Kunkel, 1872-74; Simon Noll, 1874-75; J. H. Unger, 1875-76; S. V. Mohn, 1876-78; Job Light, 1878-81; Jacob H. Mark, 1881-83; M. J. Heberly, 1883-85; Jacob P. Smith, 1885-89; D. S. Longenecker, 1889-92; Charles Bauer, 1892-93; J. A. Keiper, 1893-1901; A. H. Souillard, 1901-02; A. H. Souillard, H. E. Miller, 1902-03; H. E. Miller, 1903-04; J. R. Meredith, I. M. Hershey, 1904-05; I. M. Hershey, 1905-08; D. S. Eshleman, 1908-09; Joseph Daugherty, 1909-12; O. L. Mease, 1912-16; I. M. Hershey, 1916-25; D. E. Long, 1925-29; I. N. Seldomridge, 1929-39; and C. R. Longenecker, 1939-46.

Ono Church

"Union Church, Built, 1850," is the inscription on a stone in the north gable of a small brick church which stands on the main street in the village of Ono, East Hanover Township. Its earlier name, "Mt. Nebo," clung to the village and church many years after "Ono" became the name of the Post Office located there. The Mt. Nebo class had representatives attending the Lebanon Quarterly Conference as early as 1849. Frederick Schaffner was its first class leader. Moses Boger, D. Kauffman, W. Fritz, David Wentling, David Brown, Samuel Sherk, George Behney, Josiah Brown, and John Seltzer were among the early class leaders and stewards.



Ono Church



Schaefferstown Church

The United Brethren, The Evangelical Association, and several other denominations held services in the Union Church many years. The Evangelicals erected their own chapel in 1870. From 1871 onward for some years Michael Houser was a trustee for the Union Church representing the United Brethren. Class leaders and stewards from 1871 to 1876 were Henry Anspach, Henry Neidig, Solomon Kuntz, Michael Miller, J. Okum, Michael Houser, Philip Schaeffer, David Hetrich, and S. B. Smith.

At a quarterly conference of the Jonestown Circuit held August 19, 1915, plans were submitted for the erection of a new church. A lot had previously been purchased by the United Brethren, located a short distance west of the union house. The trustees, George A. Behney, Levi Winters, Grant Emrich, Josiah Seabolt, and George Sherk were authorized to proceed with the work of construction. A frame structure, costing \$6,000 was dedicated May 20, 1916 by Dr. D. D. Lowery. Ten years later this building was repainted on the exterior and interior and a new carpet was placed at a cost of \$806.

Two trustees in office when the church was built, viz.; George Sherk and Grant Emrich, still serve in that capacity, and those serving with them over the period were H. C. Shuey, William Shuey, Simon Boltz, and Benjamin Boyer. Warren Emrich and Frank Miller are among those who were superintendents of the Sunday School. Mrs. Grant Emrich is president of the Ladies' Aid and Mrs. Warren Emrich is its treasurer. The Christian Endeavor Society president is Edward Steiner, and Henry Shuey is treasurer.

The class from its beginning was attached to the Lebanon Circuit until 1862. Since that year it has formed part of the following circuits: Jonestown, 1862-69; Harrisburg Circuit, 1869-73; Grantville Circuit, 1873-77; Jonestown Circuit, 1877-79; Bellegrove Circuit, 1879-82; Jonestown Circuit, 1882-99; Bellegrove Circuit, 1899-1903; Lickdale Circuit, 1903-06; Jonestown Circuit, 1906-07; Grantville Circuit, 1907-22; and Jonestown Circuit, 1922-46.

Palmyra First Church

The Landmark History of the United Brethren Church in a brief

account of the church at Palmyra states: "In the year 1843 Rev Simon Noll preached in a house near the toll-gate." The toll house was one of a small number of houses and shops which stood beyond Palmyra's western crossroad in Dauphin County—a community which bore the name, "Mechanicsburg." The Rev. Noll in 1843 was serving the Dauphin Circuit. The village of Palmyra proper at that time consisted of scattered residences and shops standing along the main east and west thoroughfare, between the said crossroad on the west and another on the east now the intersection of Railroad and Main Streets. There are indications that United Brethren adherents residing in Palmyra attended the Gravel Hill Church prior to the organization of the town class, which took place in about the year 1853. Officers of the Palmyra class listed in quarterly conference records from 1853 to 1872 are: Jacob Miller, J. Landis, D. Wilhelm, G. W. Miller, George Segner, Benjamin Fishburn, John Risser, Isaac K. Hoffman, and Israel Gruber.

By 1870 the congregation had increased sufficiently to undertake erection of a church building. At a quarterly held in the Mountville Church, October 22, 1870, John Gruber, Isaac K. Hoffman, and Daniel Funk were elected trustees for a church to be built in Palmyra. A faded, fragile document which had lodged in the cornerstone of the first church building for sixty years states that these three trustees met at the house of Daniel Funk in Palmyra, November 2, 1870, and made detailed plans for the erection of a frame building, 33 x 46 feet in size. A lot, fronting fifty feet on the south side of Main Street and extending approximately 320 feet in depth, was purchased at a cost of \$300. Work of construction was begun immediately and the cornerstone was laid in January 1871. The house of God was dedicated to sacred worship by Bishop David Edwards May 21, 1871. The Rev. John Binkley, minister of the circuit was in charge of the dedicatory services, and Revs. David Strickler and Nehemiah Altmann were also present.

Another document taken from the old cornerstone shows that more than 400 persons subscribed, or made payments in cash, to the building fund, amounting to \$2,492.63. The subscription list is made up of names of persons who lived in the Palmyra community, and of members representing every class on the twelve-point Bellegrove Circuit scattered from Palmyra to Fredericksburg.

The "Little White Church," as it was known by the people of Palmyra served the needs of the congregation until the year 1899. The village had developed into an enterprising town. In the year 1897 the Rev. J. R. Blecher was appointed to the Bellegrove Circuit now reduced to four churches, of which Palmyra Church was one. Under his energetic ministry the congregation grew rapidly and a new church was erected on a new site. On the northeast corner of West Main and College Streets stood a brick building known as "Witmer's Academy." This property costing \$3,000 was purchased April 4, 1899. The Academy building was razed and a brick church with parsonage attached were erected at a cost of \$16,072.87. The cornerstone was laid July 2, 1899. The completed structure was

dedicated, April 22, 1900, with an unusual array of speakers present: Bishop J. W. Hott delivered the sermon at the morning service, Dr. Wm. M. Bell, general missionary secretary preached in the afternoon, Dr. H. U. Roop, president of Lebanon Valley College addressed the Young People's meeting at six o'clock, and at seven o'clock the closing and dedicatory services were conducted by Bishop E. B. Kephart, who preached a powerful sermon. The trustee board consisting of Elias Hartz, S. F. Engle, A. L. Lessley, A. G. Stauffer, and Charles Benson, constituted the building committee.

Erection of the second church edifice was quite as much of a venture as that of the first. Some within the congregation were faint of heart, and from without there were those who said it would not be long until there was a sheriff's sale. Fortunately the prophets of ill omen turned out to be false prophets. The congregation continued to make progress spiritually and numerically and time proved that the trustees and pastor had acted wisely in building adequately. Annual conference of the year 1904 constituted Palmyra Church a charge, and from 1911 onward it has been designated as "Palmyra First Church" on conference records.

In the period 1910-38, numerous alterations were made to the building. Originally a partition separated the church sanctuary and the Sunday School auditorium. This was removed in 1910. During the same year a pipe organ was installed, and the church refrescoed—total expenditure was \$5,500. In 1916 a large balcony was



Palmyra First Church

constructed at the north end, the basement was excavated and fitted out for social and Sunday School purposes. These, together with other renovations and improvements, cost \$8,400. A new Moller Pipe Organ was purchased in 1922. Cost of organ, installation, some redecorating, and work on the heating plant, brought the amount of expenditures to the sum of \$6,410.97. The organ was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, October 29, 1922.

In 1927 the pastor's family vacated the parsonage so that it might be used by the elementary grades of the Sunday School. After the rooms, as originally built, were used for several months by these grades, work was begun on reconstruction. While this work was going forward there was a remodeling of the main Sunday School quarters. The church pews under the north gallery were removed, the space was laid out in three class rooms for Young People's classes separated by sound-proof curtains, and new sectional chairs were placed. At the same time also a new furnace was installed. The cost of reconstruction and new equipment was \$4,300. The work was completed by March 25, 1928, when the rooms were consecrated.

An additional plot of ground, having a frontage on North College Street of 138 feet and extending along North Street a depth of 200 feet, was purchased in 1930. It provided ample space for a parsonage and garage, and a parking lot. The new parsonage, constructed of Watsonstown red brick, strictly Colonial in architecture, garage, landscaping, and lot, cost a total of \$17,771.63. The building committee consisted of J. R. Engle, W. E. Kreider, E. M. Baum, H. R. Seltzer, and M. M. Moyer. Dr. Enck dedicated the parsonage December 14, 1930, and in his report to annual conference at its 1931 session he made the following statement: "Rev. P. B. Gible, pastor of the congregation had charge of the services. This is one of the best equipped parsonages in the conference and is a credit and an asset to the congregation as well as the conference."

The most general remodeling and improving of the building since its erection were undertaken in 1937-38. This included the following: reconstructed steps to the main entrance, new two-story vestibule with stairway, removal of cumbersome arches, and supporting pillar which had stood almost in the center of the sanctuary since removal of the main interior partition in 1910, covering of walls and ceiling with weather-wood in blending colors, erecting of a new chancel having seating room for a choir of thirty-six, refinishing of woodwork throughout and of church furniture, constructing new windows at the north balcony, placing glass shields for all windows, new carpet, new radiator covers, and new ornamental lanterns. The expense incurred was \$18,449.34. Sunday, November 20, 1938 was reopening day, with Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent preaching the sermon. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached the sermon and rededicated the building at the morning hour of worship on the following Sunday.

Sunday School work at the Palmyra Church began in 1873. In

the years immediately following, sessions were held only periodically, and growth was slow. In 1885 Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Engle and family moved to Palmyra. The parents were immediately brought into the work of the church under the ministry of the Rev. Peter L. Hains. Their contributions of time, money and talents, proved to be a tower of strength to the struggling congregation. The Sunday School, of which Mr. Engle was general superintendent from 1885 to 1916, showed an increase in attendance of a few score persons to an enrollment of 829 during the period. Mr. M. M. Moyer was elected superintendent upon Mr. Engle's death in 1916, and has retained that office to the present. Theodore E. Lerch has been secretary of the School since 1904. About the same year, H. R. Seltzer, John A. Detweiler, and W. E. Kreider began to teach, and have continued to the present.

The women of Palmyra First organized a Women's Missionary Society while the church was still attached to Bellegrove Circuit. Mrs. John R. Kelchner was its first president. Others serving as head of this organization were: Mrs. M. H. Jones, Mrs. Sarah Hartz, Mrs. Edward Stopfel, Mrs. Hilda Erb Kreider, Mrs. Nelle M. Engle, Mrs. Emanuel M. Baum, Mrs. Charles P. Evans, Mrs. William E. Kreider, and Mrs. Elizabeth Spitler. The present officers of the Society are: Mrs. Ray A. Brehm, Mrs. Robert E. Hartz, Mrs. Harry B. Gingrich, Mrs. James Nelson, Mrs. William K. Bowman, Mrs. Allen Evans, Mrs. Harry Daubert, Mrs. P. B. Gobble, Mrs. Ammon E. Frye, and Mrs. LeRoy B. Yeatts Sr.

Special Missionary support has been provided by the Sunday School for Mrs. J. Hal Smith and Mrs. Charles W. Leader engaged in the foreign field; and Mrs. Nelle M. Engle in home mission work. Mrs. Engle, a member of the local society, served twenty-three years as secretary of the East Pennsylvania Conference Branch, and three years as its president. She has also been a member of our denominational Women's Board. Before taking up work with the Home Mission Board in its offices at Dayton, Ohio, she gave a brief period of service as one of the staff of workers in New Mexico.

Trustees of the church since 1895 in the order of their election are: Elias H. Hartz, Charles Benson, S. F. Engle, A. L. Lessley, A. G. Stauffer, J. Spayd Bomberger, Frank E. Hartz, C. R. Longenecker, C. C. Gingrich, J. A. Shriver, J. R. Engle, M. A. Kleinfelter, M. D. Eby, Harvey L. Seltzer, Harry R. Seltzer, W. E. Kreider, E. M. Baum, Robert E. Hartz, M. M. Moyer, Miles Horst, W. K. Bowman, J. Herbert Cassel, and Russel L. Gingrich. Those who served as class leaders are: S. B. Curry, John Seaman, W. F. Miller, W. H. Kreider, Charles Benson, Henry M. Seltzer, Joseph Snavelly, George Runkle, William Snavelly, John A. Detweiler, Luther Gerberich, H. H. Seltzer, John Sherk, F. G. Moyer, David M. Gingrich, W. E. Kreider, Norman Nornhold, and Levi J. Flory. S. F. Engle organized a choir in 1900 and was its director. He was followed in this work by J. R. Engle, H. G. Witmeyer, Mrs. Andrew Engle Bender, and Mrs. Clair F. Harnish. David H. Kreider and Gilbert D. Snyder

have held the office of president of the Lebanon County Christian Endeavor Union. Those who have given long-time service, not previously mentioned are: Charles S. Noll, member of the Choir since 1903; Ray A. Brehm, financial secretary since 1919; H. R. Seltzer, secretary of the quarterly conference since 1915, and H. S. Heilman as chief usher since 1908.

Palmyra Church was attached to the following circuits: Lebanon, 1853-60; Hummelstown, 1860-61; Lebanon, 1861-63; Bellegrove, 1864-74; Union Deposit, 1874-89; Bellegrove, 1889-98. Pastors since 1885 have been: P. L. Hains, 1885-87; H. W. Zimmerman, 1887-91; Gottlieb Myer, 1891-93; C. S. Miller, 1893-94; M. H. Jones, 1894-97; J. R. Blecher, 1897-1901; R. R. Butterwick, 1901-06; C. A. Mutch, 1906-08; J. M. Walters, 1908-10; E. O. Burtner, 1910-23; and P. B. Gible, 1923-46. Harold E. Beamesderfer was assistant, June-September, 1946.

Palmyra, Second Church

On an eminence of ground which commands an unobstructed view of a beautiful countryside stands the church which when first mentioned in boundary committee reports, was named "Zion's Church on Gravel Hill." Sometimes, in those early days, it was spoken of as "Landis' Meetinghouse," for the two-fold reason that it stood on land in possession of a member of the Landis family, and that, he was one of its founders. Henry Landis Jr. (1794-1855) married to Elizabeth Longenecker, was a local preacher of the class, and son of Henry Landis (1764-1844), who was preacher for the Mennonites. Henry Jr. conveyed to Jacob Bowman, David Heilman, and Jacob Rupp, trustees "for the congregation styled the United Brethren in Christ," sixty square perches of land for the consideration of five dollars.

The following brethren were trustees over the period, 1855-72: John Kratzer, Samuel Bomgardner, Henry Landis, George A. Mark Sr., Henry Walmer, David Heilman, Samuel Miller, Samuel Etter, Jacob Fornwalt, John Stucky, and David Wilhelm. Stewards and class leaders over the same period were: Samuel Robb, H. Nye, E. Sanders, Abraham Berry, Solomon Boyer, Jacob Fornwalt, and Joseph Achenbach.

Sixty-three names compose the church membership roll at the close of the year 1887. In 1904, when Gravel Hill Church was detached from the town class, the membership numbered eighty-five. In the fall of that year the Rev. H. W. Trautman became pastor of the circuit, and under his preaching there was a great revival which gave new life and increase to the congregation. The little church proved inadequate and in its stead a new brick sanctuary was erected on the site of the old one, at a cost of \$10,000. It was dedicated, May 20, 1906.

At annual conference session in the fall of 1911 the congregation became a separate charge. It was then that the church was named Palmyra Second Church. When the first structure was erected it

stood a full mile from the town's center of population. As time went on the farm lands between the town and the church on the hill were laid out in building lots. People locating on these new developments constitute the majority of the church's constituents, though it continues to minister to the spiritual needs of the rural area which from the beginning of its existence has been its field.

A feature of the sixth anniversary of the erection of the second building was the burning of a mortgage. A year later the Men's Bible Class constructed a walk from the Borough boundary to the church property and erected electric lights along the walk. A town lot was purchased at the corner of North Railroad and Poplar streets, and a brick parsonage and a two-car garage erected thereon in the year 1921-22, at a cost of approximately \$11,000. This modern, spacious manse, was dedicated by Bishop Wm. M. Bell, May 21, 1922.

Palmyra Second Church has one distinction above all congregations of which we have knowledge. Since the conference year 1922-23 its benevolent apportionment set by annual conference has always been paid in full during the first month of a new conference year. In the same year a living-link missionary relationship was established. Representatives in the foreign fields have been, Miss Grace Renn, Mrs. C. E. Burris, Miss Angie Aiken, and Mrs. Edna Shutz.

More adequate quarters for the Children's Division of the Sunday School were provided by excavating and furnishing a basement under the church building. The first part of this project was accomplished by labor donated by the men of the church and an outlay of \$1,166.68 in money. Consecration services were held January 22, 1928. The second phase of this enlargement cost \$2,188.65, and the added rooms were dedicated October 27, 1934.

During the fourteen years of the Rev. A. G. Nye's pastorate other forward steps were taken. In 1929 all windows at the church building were made weather-proof by the placing of storm windows. In 1935-36 the sanctuary was redecorated, and other improvements made to the exterior and the interior, all at a cost of \$1,250. Dr. W. A. Wilt preached the sermon on the reopening occasion, March 22, 1936. A new Hammond Electric Organ was installed at a cost of \$1,420 and dedicated to sacred use by Dr. H. E. Miller, May 15, 1938.

Both the Seventy-fifth and the One Hundredth anniversaries were appropriately observed. To properly record its 100 years of service in the Master's Name, an historical pamphlet was printed and generously distributed. Former pastors, A. G. Nye, C. R. Longenecker, M. V. Fridinger, and neighboring ministers had a place on the program during week-night services, May 15 to 17, 1946. On Sunday, May 19, Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, was the guest preacher at the morning hour of worship, and Dr. S. C. Enck, superintendent emeritus, was the evening speaker. The Rev. Calvin H. Reber Jr., serving this parish during the interim

of his missionary labors due to the world conflict, directed the special services and also prepared the historical sketch.

The congregation has both a church trustee board and a parsonage board. Members of the former are: Herman J. Grubb, W. H. Laudermilch, John D. Rhine, Cyrus Ellenberger, and William C. Noll; members of the parsonage board are: David J. Peffley, Edwin F. Cassel, W. D. Phillippy, James Bowman, and William C. Noll. Other members of the official family are: Charles A. Clark, Eugene G. Lutz, Mrs. Alice Seltzer, Mrs. Martha Bomberger, Miss Mary Wert, Miss Estella Ellenberger, Mrs. Lucille Strohman, Miss Fern Smith, Mrs. John D. Rhine, Mrs. Esther Yost, Miss Esther Wert, Miss Christine Unger, Walter M. Fox, George C. Winters, and Mr. A. D. Gruber. Harry K. Bomberger was for many years superintendent of the Sunday School and lay delegate to annual conference. Edwin F. Cassel succeeded Mr. Bomberger in taking over both these responsibilities and has continued in them to the present.

The Rev. Allen G. Nye who has the distinction of Palmyra Second's longest pastorate was formerly a lay member of the congregation and Sunday School superintendent. Before answering the call to the Gospel ministry he taught nine terms in the public schools of Lebanon County. He was a member of Shirk's Church in 1893 when he was granted quarterly conference license, and in the same year he with his family moved to Palmyra. He was present at the Sunday School session held in the town church on the Sunday he was elected superintendent of the Gravel Hill School. In 1894 he was voted membership in annual conference and in the prescribed time of three years completed the study course and subsequently was ordained. From 1894 onward to 1942 he served with eminent success, without break, churches of this conference. Since retirement in 1942 he supplied, for brief periods, congregations at Hershey, Lykens, Lititz, and Lebanon Salem Churches.

Ministers appointed to the following circuits served this congregation: Lebanon, 1846-56; Hummelstown, 1856-59; Lebanon, 1859-60; Hummelstown, 1860-61; Lebanon, 1861-63; Bellegrove, 1863-69; Union Deposit, 1869-71; Bellegrove, 1871-74; Union Deposit, 1874-89; Bellegrove, 1889-98; Gravel Hill and Palmyra First, 1898-1904; Grantville, 1904-06; and Hershey, 1906-11. Since being constituted a charge in 1911, its ministers have been: Amos Lehman, 1911-15; C. R. Longenecker, 1915-20; S. L. Rhoads, 1920-25; M. V. Fridinger, 1925-28; A. G. Nye, 1928-42; M. H. Wert, Calvin H. Reber Jr., 1942-43; and Calvin H. Reber Jr., 1943-46.

Rocherty, Otterbein Church, North Cornwall Township

Some religiously minded citizens of the Rocherty community, which is located about two miles southwest of Lebanon City, felt the need of a house of worship for their community. With this object in view, and without any particular denominational organization, Samuel Boughter, Amos Tittle, and Jacob Shirk bought a lot



Rocherty Church



Palmyra Second Church

from Conrad Miller at a cost of \$75. The Rev. John W. Boughter, who served the Lancaster Circuit in the year 1889-1890, extended his ministry to Rocherty. During that year a small stone church was erected. The cornerstone was laid August 31, and dedicatory services were appointed for the Sabbath of October 19 next ensuing. From mention of these events by the presiding elder in his annual report, it appears that the United Brethren, though yet without an organization, were the recognized owners of the property.

Annual conference session of 1890 attached Rocherty appointment to Schaefferstown Circuit and the Rev. H. M. Miller became its minister. On his first Sunday night service at Rocherty he organized a class of members consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Boughter Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Boughter Jr., and George Shires. Revival services were opened soon thereafter which continued for a period of seventeen weeks and resulted in sixty-nine conversions, having on one of the evenings thirty-two penitents at the altar.

The building as originally constructed had a very low ceiling and to the eye of one observer resembled a blacksmith shop rather than a house of worship. The walls were raised to a twelve-foot ceiling height in 1897, and at the same time a steeple was erected, a bell placed, and a recess for the pulpit was built, at a total cost of \$600. A small annex was added to the main building, a basement for Sunday School purposes was constructed, the interior of the building repainted and the woodwork refinished, in 1940. The fiftieth anniversary was observed June 9, with the Rev. M. H. Miller preaching the sermon, and rededicatory ceremonies were conducted by Dr. S. C. Enck the following Sunday.

Immediate successors of the first trustees were: John Hoke, Henry Steckbeck, Cyrus Miller, Edwin S. Sheaffer, and David S. Light. Trustees of more recent years have been: Jacob Westenberger, Harvey Steckbeck, and Harry Dundore. The present board consists of: Albert B. Westenberger, Isaac Kreider, Jacob Spotts, Allen Dundore, and Herman Light.

The names of Samuel Boughter Jr., Jacob Westenberger, and Isaac Kreider form the complete list of Sunday School superintendents. Mrs. Ammon Treist, Mrs. Isaac Kreider, and Mrs. Albert B. Westenberger are respectively, president, secretary, and treasurer of the Women's Missionary Association. Similar officers, in the same order, for the Otterbein Guild are: Anna Mae Kreider, Edna Hoke, and Eleanor Graby.

Rocherty church has been attached to the following circuits: Lancaster, 1889-90; Schaefferstown, 1890-93; Chestnut Grove, 1893-94; Lebanon, 1894-1901; Schaefferstown, 1901-03; Lebanon, 1903-05; Iona, 1905-09; Lebanon, 1909-10; Iona, 1910-18; Iona, 1919-21; Campbelltown, 1934-46. For the year 1918-19, W. D. Krick served Rocherty as a student appointment. The minister for the year 1921-22 was Elias D. Bressler, when it also was a student charge. William Sauer served from 1922 to 1927,—a part of this period it was a supply charge, and part of the time under Lebanon Salem quarterly conference. From 1927 to 1934 Oscar K. Buch served Rocherty charge.



Jacob Weiss Home

Schaefferstown Church

Schaefferstown, the oldest town in Lebanon County, was laid out by Alexander Schaeffer in the year 1744. Mr. Leonard Hartman, a member of the local church, is in possession of a letter of church membership and recommendation of Alexander Schaeffer, dated May 7, 1738, given to him on leaving Germany by his pastor, the Rev. J. John W. Knoepf.

Christian Newcomer preached in Schaefferstown more frequently than in any other place in Lebanon County, Felix Light's home only excepted. His first visit was in May, 1797, when he preached at some unnamed residence both afternoon and evening. In October of the same year Newcomer and Geeting came to Schaefferstown to take part in the dedication of the German Reformed Church. Of this event he writes,

Oct. 8—This day the church in this place is to be dedicated: may the Lord assist to perform the task acceptable in his sight. This forenoon the Rev. Mr. Wagoner delivered the first sermon; in the afternoon brother Geeting preached with great blessing; by candle light the Rev. Mr. Hendel delivered a handsome discourse. 9th.—The Rev. Mr. Rauhauser preached in the forenoon, in the afternoon Revs. Lochman and Williams; in the evening I preached from Hebrews 2, v. 3. ⁶

Newcomer's visits continued until the year 1824. Homes located in or near the town where he visited or preached were those of P. Miller, Jacob Bricker, Jacob Weiss, and Benjamin Brubacher. The last named lived at Buffalo Springs.

Mention of the Brubacher and Weiss families forms a connecting link of the early and later authentic records to show that there has been United Brethren preaching in Schaefferstown and its vicinity for a period of 150 years. Felix Light held preaching services regularly in the home of Jacob Weiss (1799-1851). In the year 1820 Mr. Weiss built a brick house which still stands; and when the family moved into it a religious service of a dedicatory nature was held by Felix Light and two of his preacher sons, John and Casper, under United Brethren auspices.

From the facts stated in a deed dated May 29, 1851, by which title was secured for a church lot of forty-seven square perches, fronting on Main Street, it may be assumed that the first church building was erected in 1851. This deed states that John Steinmetz and wife Mary sold the above lot for the sum of \$152.05 to Benjamin Brubacher of Lebanon Township, Jacob Eberly and Benjamin Dissinger of Heidelberg Township, Trustees of the Congregation of the United Brethren in Christ of Schaefferstown, "to erect a house of worship for the members of said congregation."

A church membership roll of the year 1873-74 contains the following names: George Steinmetz, class leader; Jacob Sanders, assistant class leader; Leonard Hartman, class steward; Cyrus, Sarah and John Beamesderfer, Anna Christ, Elizabeth Dissinger, William Grumbein, Joseph and Mary Horst, Annie Lauser, Elizabeth Moyer, John and Caroline McQuate, Elizabeth and Polly Sanders, John, Mary and Rebecca Simon, Barbara Spangler, Mary Steinmetz, Thomas Stengel, Jeremiah and Lucinda Steward, Samuel Winger, and Sarah Witmer.

The first building, erected of limestone, was burned out on July 2, 1919. The congregation then worshipped in an abandoned church

of another denomination. The members were somewhat discouraged and at first felt they could not rebuild. However, after a season of prayer and thoughtful consideration, they took courage and with holy determination began to lay plans for a new building. Benjamin Hartman, Uriah Horst, and Harry Hewitt were appointed to oversee the work of construction. The cornerstone was laid April 25, 1920 by Dr. S. C. Enck. A beautiful modern structure of native limestone costing \$16,208.44 was dedicated by Dr. Enck, August 14, 1921. The project was planned under the Rev. O. T. Ehrhart's pastorate, continued under the Rev. D. D. Buddinger, and finally completed under the Rev. H. E. Schaeffer, who took over in connection with his work at Avon after the Reverend Buddinger was called to his eternal reward. Fifty-eight members began this heroic venture—the number was seventy-two by the time the job was completed. A new bell costing \$300 was placed in 1923. A lot adjacent to the church lot, was purchased for parking purposes in 1931 at a cost of \$1,000. The interior woodwork was refinished and a carpet laid in 1940 at a total cost of \$1,100.

Persons serving in official capacity at present are: church trustees—A. Lloyd Horst, Leonard Hartman, Paul Bright, Raymond Stohler, and Allen Noll; Sunday School—superintendent, John Stohler, treasurer, Clarence Becker, secretary, Bernice Keller; Woman's Missionary Society—president, Mrs. Irvin Miller, treasurer, Mrs. Daniel Corl.

Ministers serving the Schaefferstown Church were those appointed to the following charges: Prior to 1855, Lebanon, and Berks Circuits; Myerstown Circuit, 1855-69; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1869-71; Lebanon Circuit, 1871-73; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1873-74; Lebanon Circuit, 1874-78; Avon Circuit, 1878-89; Schaefferstown Circuit, 1889-93; Lebanon Circuit (English), 1893-98; Iona Charge, 1902-10; Iona charge, 1914-15; and Hebron charge, 1917-46. At three different periods, the Schaefferstown Church was a station and the ministers serving were: W. W. Fridinger, 1898-1902; Harry H. Fertig, 1910-14; and Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1915-17.

Shirk's Church, East Hanover Township

The original Shirk's Church was a small frame building erected in the year 1825 as an "Unpartheyish Mennonite Gameinhaus," (Impartial Mennonite Meetinghouse). It was named for the Sherk family of whom Abraham, son of the Reverend Casper Sherk of Bethel Township, was the first to own the land on a parcel of which the house of worship was built. Abraham sold the farm to his son Peter, and Peter and wife Barbara gave title to Jacob Sherk to seventy-three perches for a church and burial lot for the sum of five shillings. Jacob Sherk (1783-1853) was the sole owner of this lot when the church was erected and while it was used as a Union Church. His name appears first on the list of subscribers, he handled the funds for the building enterprise, and as trustee for the estate of Peter Sherk and wife he made transfer of title of property to the United Brethren. Furthermore, he was

one of the members of the class at the time of its organization.

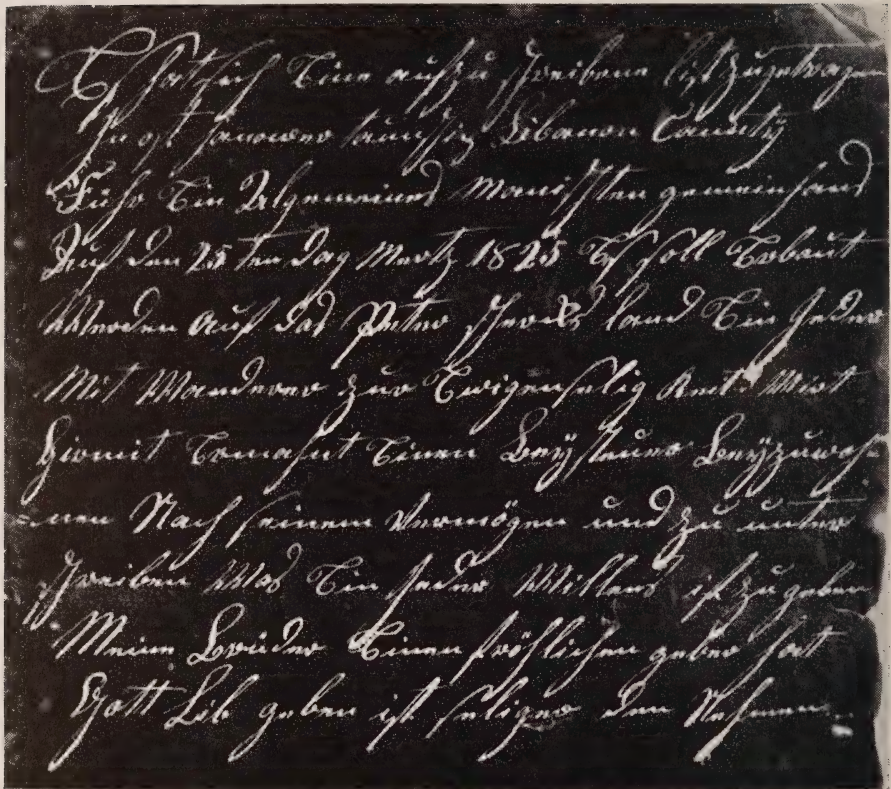
There is in existence an interesting document, dealing with the origin of the church building, which is in the possession of Mr. Erastus N. Albert, one of the present trustees, a grandson of Jacob and wife who were members of the first organized class. It consists of a number of leaves of foolscap, stitched together and on to a Harrisburg newspaper dated March 24, 1824. These pages contain a statement of purpose, a list of subscribers to the building project, a list of services and materials donated with the names of the donors, and an accounting of funds. The text on the first of these pages, of which a photostat copy appears on the opposite page, translated, is as follows:

March 25th, 1825, For the purpose of recording a list of subscriptions for an Impartial Mennonite Meetinghouse in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County. It shall be built on Peter Sherk's land. Every sojourner to eternal salvation is hereby admonished to help this cause, according as he may be minded, and to subscribe what each may be willing to give. Brethren, God loveth a cheerful giver. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

On succeeding pages of these papers appear the names of fifty subscribers to the building fund and of thirty-eight persons donating time and materials. These persons were of various religious lineage, thus showing that this was not an exclusively denominational effort.

The building was dedicated September 11, 1825, as Shirk's Union Meetinghouse. Ministers of the United Brethren, Mennonite, Lutheran, and Dunkard denominations were present and participated in the dedicatory exercises. The Reformed Church, though sharing in the work of construction and using the building from the time of construction, was not represented by her ministry. Felix Light represented the United Brethren; Henry Landis, the Mennonite; John Henry and John Stine, the Lutheran; and Christian Wengert, the Dunkard.

From 1825 to 1845, the Shirk's Meetinghouse was recognized as a Union House. In the years between these dates the United Brethren followers increased and were permanently organized as a class.⁸ According to the memoir of Bishop Jacob Erb, the class at Shirk's was organized by him in the year 1827 while he was on a visit to his home in Pennsylvania from his regular conference appointment to the "Mission" in Canada.⁹ The members of this class were the following: Mr. and Mrs. William Runkle, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Maulfair, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Sherk, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Albert, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neidig, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Neidig, Mr. and Mrs. George Bomgardner, Mr. and Mrs. David Witmer, and Mr. and Mrs. John Harper. Of these, Jacob Sherk, Henry and Jacob Miller, William Runkle, and Jacob Albert (formerly Alberthal) had made contributions for the erection of the house of worship.



Gottesf. Dien aufzu schreiben ist zugetragen
 In oft genannter hiesiger Lebanon County
 Führe ein Delinquenten Monejstun gemeinland
 Derselbe ist am 10ten März 1825 by Joll Corbair
 Abhandeln aus der hiesigen hiesigen Land ein Jahre
 Mit Monejstun zu erwirksamig Amt. Mit
 Gionit Corbair ein Jahr hiesigen hiesigen
 ein Jahr hiesigen hiesigen und zu hiesigen
 schreiben ist ein Jahre hiesigen ist zu hiesigen
 Monejstun ein hiesigen hiesigen ist
 Gott Lieb geben ist hiesigen ein hiesigen

An Appeal for Subscriptions to Shirk's Meetinghouse

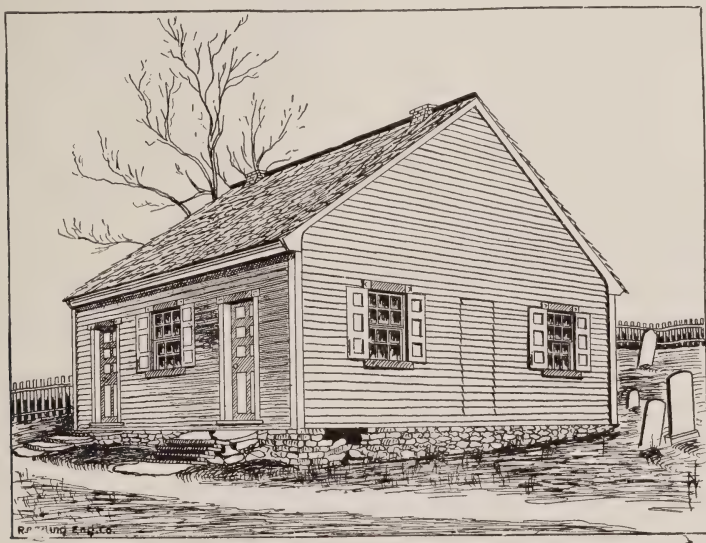
In the year 1844 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania upon the prayer of sundry petitioners representing both the Mennonite Society and the United Brethren in Christ, authorized Jacob Sherk, trustee, named in the deed of trust to him given by Peter Sherk, to sell seventy-five perches of land, property commonly known as "Shirk's Meetinghouse," to Jacob Albert, Henry Neidig, and George Bongardner, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ. So far as the county record is concerned, the transfer of property was made February 10, 1845 for the consideration of one dollar.¹⁰

The Lutheran and Reformed congregations continued to hold service in this house of worship until the year 1848 when they jointly erected their own sanctuary known as Zion's Evangelical and Reformed Church. The United Brethren occupied the original building until 1887.

In that year they erected a new frame building some rods west of the original. Peter Dohner, William Ulrich, and Aaron Albert were trustees at the time. By their direction a printed pamphlet was issued, containing a brief historical sketch, and a statement

to the effect that a photo had been taken of the original church and that anyone making a donation of not less than five dollars would receive a copy.

In the period intervening between the terms of the first trustees and those in office at the time of rebuilding, the following served: J. H. Harper, David Winters, Thomas Bomgardner, Henry Crum, and Henry Winters. Other official members were: Isaac Bolton, Christian Seibert, Adam Gebhard, Henry Doutrich, John Neidig, Charles Fritz, and Moses Seltzer. Trustees serving at the present are: Erastus N. Albert, Jacob Albert, Mrs. Ellen Blatt, Harvey Kreider, and Paul Sattazahn. In a comparatively short time after the property came into the hands of our denomination the territory to which Shirk's Church looked as its field of operation was occupied by other United Brethren Churches which by now have hedged it in and have greatly restricted its work. Through an unswerving loyalty a few valiant souls have maintained an active organization through all the years.



Shirk's Meetinghouse

In the cemetery adjoining the church lot a small memorial stone has been placed in honor of a spiritual son of this historic congregation. The inscription on the stone is as follows:

“Rev. Ira E. Albert
a friend of Jesus
He gave his life for the
redemption of Africa
November 6, 1902
Near Rotifunk Sierra Leone
West Africa
Born November 13, 1868”

Shirk's Church



Ira E. Albert was converted in Shirk's Church at the age of nineteen, under the ministry of the Rev. Uriah Gambler. He began to teach in the public schools of the county at the age of sixteen and continued for eight successive terms. In 1895 he was received into annual conference and was ordained an elder four years later. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1897. Charges served by him were, Sinking Spring, 1895-97; and Elizabethville, 1897-99. On November 19, 1899, the Rev. and Mrs. Albert set sail on the steamer *Oceanic* for Sierra Leone, West Africa. As a missionary, he was very successful—loved, honored, and respected by all who knew him. On November 6, 1902, he "passed into the realms of glory through the murky waters of the Bompeh River." His wife before marriage was Miss Mary Richards of Annville, Pennsylvania, who has maintained a deep interest in missionary work, and who, in more recent years is known to the Church at home and abroad as Mrs. S. S. Hough. The mission school at Freetown, West Africa was renamed for him and through the combined gifts of Mr. Ralph Leininger of Brooklyn, New York, and of the Women's Missionary Society, Albert Academy was greatly strengthened within four years after his demise.

The ministers who have had the honor to serve the Shirk's congregation are those who have been appointed to the following circuits: Lancaster, 1827-30; Halifax, 1830-33; Dauphin, 1833-53; Hummelstown, 1853-66; Harrisburg, 1866-68; Union, 1868-69; Harrisburg, 1869-73; Grantville, 1873-89; Bellegrove, 1889-1901; Grantville, 1901-03; Bellegrove, 1903-04; Grantville, 1904-34; and Lickdale, 1934-46.



Water Works Church



Bellegrove Church

Water Works Church, North Annville Township

This church is located on an elevation of land several rods south of the Swatara Creek along which the Union Canal Company erected a steam power plant to pump water from the creek to the canal summit at the "Old Tunnel" west of Lebanon City. Because of these circumstances the church has been variously known as Mt. Union, Mt. Zion or Water Works. From land transfers to the canal company we learn that town lots were laid out, but no town ever developed.

Jacob Heilman and Michael Seltzer donated land upon which a small frame church building was erected by Peter Seltzer, son of Michael, about the year 1843. Heilman remained a trustee until his death in 1861. Those serving with him in that office were David Boger, and Daniel Lightner, and their immediate successors were Michael B. Noll, Daniel Helm, and John Gingrich. These men from time to time also served as class leaders and stewards. Benjamin Light, John A. Mark, David A. Mark, Henry Blouch, Ephraim Burchner, and John F. Sherk served the church in official capacity. Jacob Light, son of Benjamin, was one of the main supporters of this congregation through many years until his death in 1933. Harvey L. Seltzer and his brother Harry R., now members and trustees of Palmyra First Church, are descendants of both Michael Seltzer and Benjamin Light. Harvey L. has given some special financial support to this church.

The congregation, though never large in numbers, has nevertheless manifested a vigorous Christian life, and many precious seasons of enthusiastic revivals were experienced. In proportion to its membership this church has one of the largest and most active Women's Missionary Association in the Conference. With other churches of the Bellegrove Circuit, it has taken part in special rural projects. Its teachers cooperate with circuit and community Leadership Training courses. In 1938 two of the Sunday School classes

purchased new pulpit furniture which was dedicated by Dr. Enck on August 21 of that year. The church membership at the close of 1946 numbered sixty, the Sunday School enrollment was eighty-nine, with an average attendance of seventy-two. The W. M. A. membership was twenty-five. The pastor's wife, Mrs. William E. Sherriff, is president of the Women's Missionary Association, Mrs. Viola Light is its secretary, and Mrs. Charles Bomgardner is treasurer. Jacob H. Light, Oscar R. Light, Ammon Hitz, Charles Bomgardner, and Robert Snively constitute the present trustee board. John H. Miller is superintendent of the Sunday School and class leader. The secretary of the Sunday School is Jacob Light, and the treasurer, Clarence Maulfair.

Ministers serving the Water Works Church were those appointed to the following circuits: Lebanon Circuit, 1843-63; Bellegrove Circuit, 1863-82; Lebanon Circuit, 1882-1903; and Bellegrove Circuit, 1903-46.

3. Abandoned Churches, Classes, and Appointments of Lebanon County

Blue Meetinghouse Appointment. The boundary committee of the year 1889 placed the Blue Meetinghouse appointment on the Schaeffers-town Circuit. The building so designated is a stone structure located about one and one-half miles east of Kleinfeltersville in the extreme southeast corner of Heidelberg Township. Our denomination never owned the building and the appointment continued for about four years.

Bomberger's Class was attached to Lebanon Circuit in the year 1871.

Biely's, Forge, and Lessley's Classes were on the Lebanon Circuit during the decade 1850-1860. These are probably variant names for the same class which met in the vicinity of the New Market Forge on the Quittapahilla Creek, in North Annville Township.

Brightbill's. (Though no longer the property of the United Brethren is listed under the active churches.)

Cornwall Appointment is listed as a preaching point on Avon Circuit in the year 1878.

Eisenhauer's, Groh's, Peiffer's, Zinn's, and Weiss' Classes were shifted from Lebanon Circuit to Myerstown Circuit in the year 1849. All of them were named for families either from the fact that they respectively met in the home of the family named or that a member of such family was the class leader. Their origin and continuance is uncertain.

Gingrich's Class. A class by this family name was a part of the Lebanon Circuit from 1848 to 1855, and the latter year was attached to Annville. From the record of quarterly conferences the class-name was also Meadowville, Long Meadow, and Shaffer's. It had considerable strength as reports from the stewards show. George Gingrich, J. Fitring, Peter Gingrich, Moses Light and J. Kettering were its leaders and stewards. The family and place-names would indicate that the class was composed of members residing in the vicinity of the Beck Creek some distance west of the village of Rocherty.

Hill Class met in homes located about midway between Schaefferstown and Hopeland. In 1871 it was attached to Lebanon Circuit, in 1873 to Schaefferstown Circuit, in 1874 to Lebanon Circuit, and in 1878 to Avon Circuit. The membership in 1873-74 consisted of twenty-seven persons, of whom thirteen were of the name Eberly. Elias Eberly was the class leader. Mrs. Susan Eberly, now residing in Lititz, the mother of Mrs. A. M. Shissler, was a member of this class.

THE CHURCHES OF LEBANON COUNTY

Monroe Valley Class was attached to Lebanon Circuit in 1862. It received its name from the Valley in which its members lived—a valley in northern Bethel Township. John Phillips, Philip Mease, Samuel Adams and Andrew Louser were its leaders and stewards.

Schneider's Class met at the Schneider (Snyder) home located just west of the Swatara Creek on the boundary line of Lebanon and Dauphin Counties. By report of the boundary committee of the year 1871 it was detached from Union Circuit and attached to Bellegrove Circuit.

Snyder's Class, meeting in a Snyder home near Iona, was attached to Avon Circuit in 1878.

Spayth's was the name of a class listed as a point on the Lebanon Circuit in 1871.

Sunnyside Class, named for that group of homes now forming the eastern section of Cleona Borough, appears as a preaching appointment on Lebanon Circuit in 1875.

Union Salem Church located about a mile easterly from Lickdale on the old road to Fredericksburg was erected jointly by six denominations in the year 1859 on land purchased from Daniel Shugar. The denominations participating and trustees representing them are as follows: for the German Baptist and Mennonites, Samuel Groh; for the United Brethren, Abraham F. Sherk; for the Evangelical Association, E. E. Thompson; for the German Reformed, Levi Seiler; and for the Evangelical Lutheran, Daniel Shugar.

A United Brethren class was organized in the year 1860 and held services regularly in this frame church until a few years after the erection of our church in Lickdale. Samuel Groh joined the United Brethren and was the leader of the class from 1860 to 1867. John F. Light was his immediate successor. Michael Donmoyer, Hamilton C. Dixon, Christian Batdorf, John F. Light, and a Mr. Sattazahn were stewards. Several attempts were made to revive the class after it was officially merged with the Lickdale class, but for about thirty years past the class has been disbanded. United Brethren ministers are still invited to participate in annual home-coming services held by interested people.

The Union Salem Class formed part of Lebanon, Jonestown, Bellegrove and Lickdale Circuits, respectively.

NOTES

1. Grantville is in Dauphin County, but Grantville Circuit included certain Lebanon County Churches.
2. Lebanon English Circuit was an appointment in East Pennsylvania Conference when at the same time there was a Lebanon Circuit in East German Conference.
3. *Lebanon County Historical Society*, Pamphlet vol. VII, No. 7, pp. 266-270.
4. W. W. Orwig, "*History of the Evangelical Association*," p. 133.
5. From *Memoirs, Annual Conference Minutes*, East German Conference, 1891.
6. The church dedicated on this occasion was the second erected by the Reformed congregation, and was replaced by the present building in 1858. According to the minutes of the Coetus of the German Reformed Church, May 15, 1797, Hendel was the minister at Philadelphia, Geeting at Antietam, Rauhauser at Hagerstown, Md., and Wagner at York. Williams and Lochman were Lutherans, the latter being then pastor of the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church at Lebanon.
7. There is no uniform spelling of the family name. The German was Scherrick. The predominating English spelling is, Sherk, which has been followed in this volume, except in this instance, for the reason that "Shirk's" has for many years appeared on official conference records.
8. The claim has been made that the class at Shirk's Meetinghouse was the first class organized east of the Susquehanna River. Bishop Newcomer's statement, quoted on page 56 of this volume, that he organized a class at the home of Christian Herr in Manor Township, Lancaster County, September 17, 1816, rules out this claim.
9. *Minutes*, Joint Session, Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania Conferences, 1884, page 20.
10. Deeds H-773, and I-46 in the Recorder's Office, Lebanon County; and the *Laws of Pennsylvania*, 1844, section 2, page 547, set forth the details of these transactions. These recitals agree in fact with the privately held papers mentioned above.

Chapter VIII.

THE CHURCHES OF NORTHUMBERLAND, COLUMBIA, AND SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES

1. Introduction: The Churches of Northumberland County

Northumberland County was erected in the year 1772 and Columbia County was carved out of a portion of it in 1813. Christian Newcomer visited this region of our Conference area on two occasions. On May 2, 1796 he, with George Geeting, left the Little Swatara community of Lebanon County. Concerning this journey he writes: "rode the whole day over hills and valleys, in the evening we arrived at Shamokin. The people received us very friendly; we had a meeting at candle light." The next day they reached Sunbury and the following day Geeting preached there.

Here we have another instance of the indefatigable labors and unmatched zeal of these men of God. They undoubtedly followed the old trail from Pinegrove to Hegins, then on to the Shamokin country—a trail with the general course of the present highway number 125. Anyone driving over this route today finds it a winding road over steep and abrupt mountain crossings, with only scattered dwellings through the valleys and with only about a half dozen clusters of houses where the mountain road crosses a valley road. Shamokin then was the name of a region, not the name of a town or city.

Newcomer in company with Adam Riegel traveled over the same route four and a half years later. Their objective again was Sunbury. On reaching there, Newcomer met with disappointment. He writes: "The person to whom I was recommended happened to have been buried yesterday. This being the day of election, we did not stay in the town, but came through Northumberland, not without some danger and difficulty in crossing the West Branch, sometime after dark we reached the house of Abr. Eyerly."

By these journeys Newcomer blazed a trail of missionary venture which other brethren followed a generation later, and out from which their efforts and influences radiated throughout the "Shamokin Country." In time classes were formed and churches were established from the Mahantango Creek northward to and including Catawissa on the East Branch of the Susquehanna River, and beyond it to Milton on the west Branch.

2. The Circuits of Northumberland and Columbia Counties

The first circuit covering this area was the old Dauphin Circuit. The earliest churches and classes would be a part of this circuit. The second was the Halifax Circuit, divided off of Dauphin in 1843. The ministers appointed to them appear in a previous section of this volume.

In 1846, a new circuit or mission was created out of the Halifax Circuit and named the Northumberland Mission. Ministers appointed to it were: Samuel Seiders, 1846-48; Jacob Brewer, 1848-49; Jacob Brewer and Andrew Steigerwalt, 1849-50; Joseph Young Jr., 1850-52; Israel Carpenter, 1852-53; G. W. Hoffman, 1853-54; George Gilbert, 1854-56; P. L. Zimmerman and D. M. Reeser, 1856-57; Wesley Deitrich, 1857-58; Amos F. Yeager, 1858-1860; John Swank, 1860-62; and G. W. M. Rigor, 1862-63.

For one year only (1863-1864), there were two circuits; one continued as Northumberland and the other was named Catawissa. During that year, John Swank served the Northumberland Circuit and Simon Zimmerman the Catawissa Circuit.

These two circuits were again brought into one in 1864, and called the Shamokin Circuit. Ministers appointed were: G. W. Hoffman and John Swank, 1864-65; Josiah P. Long, 1865-66; George A. Lee, 1866-68; and William B. Evers, 1868-70.

In the year 1870, the Shamokin City church became a station, and the remaining appointments formed a circuit which took the earlier name, Northumberland Circuit. The appointees were: Abraham Kauffman, 1870-71; Jefferson M. Hawthorn and J. H. Nelson, 1871-72; and Thomas Garland, 1872-74.

Certain appointments were detached from the Northumberland Circuit in 1872, forming the Mt. Carmel Circuit. It continued under that name for two years, during which time S. R. Gipple was its minister. In 1873 Northumberland and Sunbury constituted Northumberland Mission station, J. Willis Conery, minister.

The two then existing circuits were reformed and renamed in the year 1874. The eastern and northern churches of the area formed the Catawissa Circuit, and the southern churches the Paxinos Circuit, with the exception of Mt. Zion and Zimmerman's School House, and Northumberland Mission, which constituted Sunbury Mission, John F. Mower, pastor.

Catawissa Circuit continues from 1874 to the present, and the pastors appointed are as follows: Thomas Garland, 1874-76; Monroe P. Sanders, 1876-77; S. R. Gipple, 1877-80; L. R. Kramer, 1880-81; H. S. Gabel, 1881-84; J. G. W. Herrold, 1884-86; G. W. McKee, 1886-88; R. S. Arndt, 1888-91; Uriah Gambler, Charles Bauer, 1891-92; B. F. Goodman, 1892-98; George W. Shires, 1898-01; N. A. Kiracofe, 1901-02; C. L. Swartz, P. H. Balsbaugh, 1902-03; P. H. Balsbaugh, 1903-07; L. W. Fickinger, 1907-10; J. L. Ohnmacht, 1910-11; J. L. Ohnmacht, B. F. Goodman, 1911-12; B. F. Goodman, 1912-15; P. M. Holdeman, 1915-17; P. M. Holdeman, S. A. Rauch, 1917-18; S. A. Rauch, 1918-22; W. E. Shoop, 1922-27; T. J. Leibold, 1927-28; J. H. Dunham, 1928-39; and J. C. Deitzler, 1939-46.

Mt. Carmel Circuit was formed a second time, in the year 1883. The ministers who were appointed are listed under the Mt. Carmel Church.

The Paxinos Circuit existed from 1874 to 1894. The following served the Circuit: J. Willis Conery, 1874-75; J. Willis Conery and G. W. S. Wenrich, 1875-76; G. W. S. Wenrich, 1876-78; G. W. S. Wenrich, Jacob P. Smith, 1878-79; Monroe P. Sanders, 1879-80; S. R. Gipple, 1880-81; William Lamey, 1881-83; R. S. Arndt, 1883-85; C. W. Raver, 1885-86; C. W. Raver and J. A. Lyter, 1886-87; J. P. Cowling, 1887-90; Uriah Gambler, 1890-91; M. H. Jones, 1891-93; and C. E. Boughter, 1893-95.

In the year 1895, annual conference changed the name of the Paxinos Circuit to Shamokin Circuit. It continues under that name to the present. The list of pastors serving it is as follows: R. R. Butterwick, 1895-97; S. S. Daugherty, 1897-98; B. F. Goodman, 1898-07; M. H. Wert, 1907-08; P. L. Hains, 1908-10; J. F. Brown, 1910-16; J. C. Peace, J. C. Deitzler, 1916-17; J. C. Deitzler, 1917-18; H. P. Light, 1918-20; August Williams, 1920-21; P. C. Hoffman, 1921-25; T. J. Leibold, 1925-27; B. F. Goodman, 1927-32; Roy G. Spangler, 1932-35; M. G. Sponsler, 1935-42; and Clifford E. Esterline, 1942-46.

3. The Churches of Northumberland County

Ash Grove Church

Some of the people who held membership at the Pleasant Hill Church formed a nucleus for the congregation at Ash Grove. It was either a new class or a re-organized class which became active in the year 1870. The leaders in the movement were Andrew Rheinhart and David Reeser; and the Rev. Abraham H. Kauffman, minister of Northumberland Circuit. Mr. and Mrs. John Reed, and Mr. and Mrs. Elias Reed, and a Miss Hales also were members at the time. Meetings were held in an old log schoolhouse until 1874. In that year a frame church building was erected on land donated by Jacob W. Maurer and wife, located along the Center Turnpike about one-half mile west of Paxinos. The trustees were Mr. Maurer, Daniel Hummel, and Charles Harp. On this ground stood many beautiful ash trees, and upon the suggestion of Hugh Teats, ancestor of some of the present members, the church received the name "Ash Grove."

In 1930 a fund was created for the erection of a new church when the opportune time arrived. The fund having reached in excess of seven thousand dollars, the congregation on February 17, 1938 decided to build. In the latter part of March the old church was moved to another location and work was begun on the construction of a new. Work progressed rapidly—the cornerstone was laid April 17 by Dr. S. C. Enck. The stone for the building were quarried near by and conveyed to the place of building by the men of the congregation and interested friends. More than a thousand man-hours of labor were donated. The cost of the structure plus furnishings was \$20,221, though its actual value was \$25,000. The room on the ground floor can be divided into six classrooms by folding doors. On the second floor there is a Primary

room which will seat fifty pupils, and the main worship room has a capacity of 250.

The church trustees, Lorenzo Startzel, J. Wesley Epler Sr., Frank Kerstetter, Charles Boughner, and Fred Snyder were the building committee. Mr. Snyder, Charles Barthel, and Daniel Mowery comprised the finance committee. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, dedicated the temple of worship at the morning service of October 9, 1938. Dr. J. A. Lyter preached the evening service. A Wicks two-manual pipe organ was dedicated the following Sabbath. The membership at the time numbered 135. The Rev. Melvin G. Sponsler, pastor of the Shamokin Circuit, 1935-1942, not only led out in the religious work of the parish, but also in the manual labor, to accomplish the work of constructing this most excellent house of worship. The Rev. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, conducted mortgage burning ceremonies June 4, 1944, at which time the Rev. Clifford E. Esterline was pastor.

In the decade preceding that in which the first church was erected, a Union Sunday School was held in the schoolhouse. The school continued as a union effort until September 19, 1915, when, by vote of the people attending, it became a strictly United Brethren organization. Those serving the school at present in official capacities are: J. Wesley Epler Sr., J. Wesley Epler Jr., A. K. Moyer, Mrs. Charles Kerstetter, Mrs. Samuel Williams, and Evelyn Epler. Mrs. Samuel Williams, Mrs. Elmira Snyder, and Mrs. Charles Boughner head the work of the Women's Missionary Society. Frank Kerstetter has served forty-one years as church treasurer, thirty-two years as trustee, and thirty-nine years as class leader.

The ministers assigned to the church are those listed under the following circuits: Northumberland Circuit, 1870-74; Paxinos Circuit, 1874-95; and Shamokin Circuit, 1895-1946.

Clark's Grove Church, Shamokin Township

The missionary endeavors by the United Brethren in Irish Valley resulted in the organization of a class, about 1850, in an old school house known as Zimmerman's, situated on the valley road, about five miles from Shamokin. Trustees, elected September 12, 1868, were Joseph Lewis, Jerry Lewis, and Christian Miller. During the period 1850-69 Michael and George Zimmerman, U. Lewis, and Christian Miller are officers reporting to quarterly conference. As late as 1874 it was still referred to as the Zimmerman's School House appointment in the Conference minutes. Two years later it is called the Irish Valley appointment.

When the first building was erected is not known, nor are we certain that it was United Brethren property. The title was in question and another denomination took over the property. At the March session of conference, 1879, the Rev. M. J. Mumma, presiding elder, reports, "Irish Valley Church on this charge, the title of which has been in litigation for some time, is lost to the circuit. The brethren of this class have, however, another house

of worship in process of erection, which will, the Lord permitting, ere long be dedicated, with no debt, or at most, very little."

This building, virtually the second for the United Brethren in the valley, was dedicated September 17, 1879, presiding elder M. J. Mumma, and the Rev. Lewis Peters, pastor of Harrisburg First Church, officiating. The Rev. Jacob P. Smith was pastor at the time. The second church stood about one half mile west of the site of the first.

There was a proposal, in the year 1890, to erect a new building. The structure, however, was not torn down, but so greatly remodeled, that one might say it was almost entirely rebuilt. Reverend Uriah Gambler, pastor, led the congregation in that project.

After this building had been in use for nearly forty years, the need for a new house of worship was felt. Steps were taken to that end, and the cornerstone was laid, November 10, 1929, by conference superintendent, Dr. S. C. Enck. By spring of the following year the very substantial and beautiful temple was completed. Bishop G. D. Batdorf officiated at the dedicatory services March 30, 1930. This was a great accomplishment on the part of a congregation of one hundred and twenty-four members. The cost of the project was \$25,425, and the amount paid on the same was \$12,000. The trustees were: K. W. Lewis, J. A. Clark, Harry R. Miller, S. W. Gass and Harvey E. Goodman.

The Rev. Benjamin F. Goodman, one of the most beloved ministers of the Conference, led the congregation in this enterprise. He completed a five year pastorate on the Shamokin Circuit in 1932, having previously served the same circuit nine years, 1898-1907. He had two terms on the Catawissa Circuit: 1892-98 and 1911-15. Altogether he gave twenty-five years to the active ministry in the Northumberland-Columbia area. He was a native of the region, being born in Aristes, Columbia County, April 10, 1855. The Rev. Goodman received quarterly conference license in 1882, annual



Ash Grove Church



Clark's Grove Church

license in 1884, and was ordained in 1891; and served forty-three years in active work. The conference treasurer used to remark that, wherever Rev. Goodman was stationed, you could expect the conference assessments to come in, in full. Brother and sister Goodman scattered sunshine wherever they went. They sleep their last sleep in the Summit Hill Cemetery, Irish Valley, awaiting the resurrection call.

The class and later the church were a part of the following circuits: Northumberland Circuit, 1850-64; Shamokin Circuit, 1864-70; Northumberland Circuit, 1870-74; Sunbury Mission, 1874-75; Paxinos Circuit, 1875-94; Shamokin Circuit, 1895 to the present. Pastors serving these circuits were the pastors of the Clark's Grove Church.

Mt. Carmel Church

It was during the year 1863, when the destiny of our nation was being decided in the battle at Gettysburg, that the Rev. Simon Zimmerman was appointed to Northumberland Circuit. It was not long until he was able to form a class at Mt. Carmel. The early membership records show both a German and an English class. The membership had no church building in which to worship. Meetings were held in homes of the community for eleven years. John Dietrich's home on Oak Street between Second and Third streets was the one most frequently used. A small school-house near the site of the old High School, Second and Vine Streets, was used occasionally.

In 1872 the circuit of which Mt. Carmel was a part became Mt. Carmel Circuit. S. R. Gipple was its pastor two years. In 1874 Mt. Carmel class was attached to Catawissa Circuit, having Thomas Garland as its minister. He was successful in buying the present church lot, thirty-six by one-hundred feet in size, on the southwest corner of Third and Vine Streets, for the sum of three-hundred and ten dollars. The trustees were Thomas Garland, Jacob Byerly, and Lewis Dietrich. On this lot a small frame building, twenty-eight by thirty-three feet was erected. It was opened for worship in December of the year 1874, and dedicated the following summer. It looked so little like a house of worship that the citizens of the community nicknamed it, "The Screen Factory." To erase this stigma, Eli Schlabig and Henry Moser collected money to improve and paint the little structure.

The Rev. H. B. Spayd was appointed pastor of Mt. Carmel Mission in 1883. Annual conference made an appropriation of two-hundred dollars during both his first and second year. It was during his second year that there was erected south of the old church building, a parsonage, which necessitated placing a first mortgage of five-hundred dollars on the church property. In the year 1885, conference sent J. G. Fritz to this mission and provided an appropriation of \$150. His was indeed a great ministry. Each of his four years was marked by a great revival. The first year he had

Mt. Carmel Church

more than one-hundred converts and 102 persons joined the church. In 1886, ninety were converted and forty united with the class. The third year sixty-four were saved and fifty-seven were added to the roll. In his fourth year sixty-seven were converted and forty-two new members were received. Busy as he was with the work of spiritual affairs, he found time to direct the erection of a new church at Aristes and in remodeling and enlarging the old building at Mt. Carmel.

During the ministry of the Rev. R. S. Arndt, in 1899, the old remodeled building was moved south on the lot a distance of about fifty feet, and the present church building, thirty-three by fifty feet, was erected. This house of worship was dedicated in 1900. The trustees were: Peter Kaufman, Daniel O. Moser, Horace Moser, Andrew W. Ramberger, J. J. Menger, David Mattern, and Joseph Shoffstoll. Under the leadership of the Rev. S. L. Rhoads, 1904-07, the old parsonage was sold and moved to a lot adjoining the church lot on the west, and the present parsonage was built. At the time the trustees were: Charles Paul, William R. Spatz, Andrew W. Ramberger, Adam J. Rowe, and Levi Dietrich.

Further improvements and enlargements were made while the Rev. John H. Dunham was pastor, 1920-1929. In 1922 the basement was excavated and fitted out for Sunday School class rooms at a cost of six-thousand dollars. Then followed a program of improvements which were completed in 1927 at a cost of \$7,779.13, consisting of general renovation and placing of art windows, new carpet, and installing new light fixtures. Reopening services were held Sunday, November 11, 1927.

In 1910 C. S. Miller reported that over a period of years, the following had been granted quarterly conference license to preach: John Yarkes, Conrad Lehr, D. D. Buddinger, Joseph Francis, J. Warren Kauffman, and W. J. Marks. At a later date, 1937, Warren L. Strickler, son of the pastor, E. M. Strickler, was licensed. August Williams has been lay minister for twenty years, and church trustee for fifteen years. James Wert has served as trustee for thirty-five years, been delegate to annual conference eighteen years, and superintendent of the Sunday School fifteen years. The present trustee board consists of James Wert, Thomas Moser, Norman Malick, David Paul, Norman Harner, Victor Harner, and Elmer Long. Other officers in church organizations are: Mildred Lamb, Mary Louise Wertz, Grace Lamb, Mrs. William H. Quaid, Mrs. Clinton Wary, Mrs. Kate Becker, and Mrs. James Wert.

Mt. Carmel Church has been attached to the following circuits: Northumberland, 1863-64; Shamokin, 1864-66; Valley View, 1866-69; Shamokin, 1869-70; Northumberland, 1870-72; Mt. Carmel, 1872-74; Catawissa, 1874-83. Since 1883 the following ministers have served the church: H. B. Spayd, 1883-85; J. G. Fritz, 1885-89; M. J. Heberly, 1889-91; Uriah Gambler, 1891-93; Charles Bauer, 1893-96; Amos Graul, 1896-98; R. S. Arndt, 1898-1902; Thomas Garland, 1902-04; S. L. Rhoads, 1904-07; D. S. Eshleman, 1907-08; J. Francis Smith, 1908-10; C. S. Miller, 1910-16; S. G. Haas, 1916-18; J. C. Deitzler, 1918-20; John H. Dunham, 1920-29; L. R. Walters, 1929-32; E. M. Strickler, 1932-39; Edward T. Uhler, 1939-Nov. 1943; F. G. Flurer, Nov. 1943-45; William H. Quaid, 1945-46.

Shamokin First Church

The United Brethren congregation of Shamokin has been in existence for approximately one hundred years. The class had its beginning when Shamokin was a mere hamlet. Rev. Joseph Young Jr. spent the latter part of the year 1865 in opening a new mission in Northumberland County, and met with great success. He was invited to come to Irish Valley to preach by a resident of that valley, Mr. Solomon Zuern, who had occasion to go to the vicinity of Boyle's Run to see a friend, and, while there, heard Rev. Young preach and extended the invitation. The appointment in Irish Valley resulted in an appointment at Shamokin.

The annual conference of 1846 placed Northumberland Mission on its list of appointments, officially, and appointed the Rev. Samuel Seiders, who served two years. The Rev. Jacob Brewer succeeded him. It was on the return of the Rev. Young, in 1850, for a second time, that steps were taken to erect a house of worship. At the quarterly conference held at Malich's Church, May 11, 1850, Jeremiah Zimmerman, George Krieger, and Henry Hagey were appointed trustees "to build a meeting-house in Shamokintown." Mr. Zimmerman had a friend by the name of Boyd who graciously donated a lot for that purpose. The first church, thirty by forty feet in size, was erected in 1850 on the lot donated, located on Sunbury Street, where the present parsonage stands. Christian



Shamokin First Church

Peffley, presiding elder, consecrated the house of worship and preached the dedicatory sermon in the latter part of December, 1850.

Shamokin then had only two houses of public worship, the United Brethren and the Presbyterian. Inasmuch as Northumberland Mission had on it as many as fifteen appointments, preaching services were held only every two weeks in the Church at Shamokin. When not so used, other Christian bodies worshipped in it. The Methodist congregation used the church building during the years 1854-1859; the Lutheran and Reformed, 1864 and 1865; the Evangelical, 1864-1870; and the Baptist and the Quakers occasionally. The latter year Shamokin was made a station.

In addition to the three named trustees, others who served as such in the period to 1869 were: George B. Sinton, Josiah F. Bird, Mahlon Sholl, J. L. Lehman, and John Rudisill. All these men also served in the capacities of class leaders and stewards. The name of Peter Dirk also appears as serving in these offices.

By 1869 there was great need for expansion. Consequently the first building was remodeled and enlarged. Josiah F. Bird, Mahlon Sholl, and John Rudisill, trustees at the time, were assisted in this enterprise by J. L. Lehman, George B. Sinton, and J. Kline. In 1874 the presiding elder reported that the congregation is "seri-

ously embarrassed on account of debt," but three years later reported it to be free of debt. Providing larger quarters and limiting the charge to one church was reflected in increase of membership. John F. Mower, pastor, 1870-71, reported a net increase of 36 the first year that Shamokin operated as a station. At the close of this year the church membership was 101, and the Sunday School enrollment, 170. After a steady growth and another year in which there was a large increase—this time under the pastorate of H. B. Spayd, 1790 — from 161 to 218, plans were laid for the erection of a new building.

The old church was razed during the Rev. Spayd's year, and, when J. P. Cowling took charge in the fall of that year, he found the congregation without a building. The Rev. Cowling set to work with determination to complete the building, and by the fall of 1891 this was accomplished. During 1892 and 1893 funds were collected to pay for the new edifice, valued at \$12,000, and it was dedicated in 1894.

In 1911 a parsonage, costing \$5,375, was constructed on the corner of Ninth and Sunbury Streets. A new Mohler pipe organ was installed in the church at a cost of \$3,000, and dedicated by Bishop W. M. Bell, August 16, 1925.

A third building became necessary through a very unfortunate event. During the night of October 29, 1928, the building of 1890 was completely burned out, with only a part of the walls remaining. Dr. S. C. Enck met with the trustees in November and action was taken to begin immediately the erection of a new church building. The plans called for moving the parsonage eastward to the old church site, and for the erection of the church on the corner of Ninth and Sunbury Streets. The parsonage was not only moved but practically reconstructed. The cornerstone of the church was laid on August 11 of the following year, Dr. A. S. Lehman officiating. The total cost of the enterprise was \$12,049.16.

By the wise planning, excellent leadership, and untiring labors of H. J. Behney, pastor, the task of reconstruction was carried forward and completed. Bishop G. D. Batdorf dedicated the new edifice April 27, 1930. It is a three-story brick building of dignified exterior appearance. The sanctuary, outstanding in all its churchly appointments, is on the Sunbury Street level. To the rear of the sanctuary, on two floors, are Sunday School rooms. Due to the abrupt sloping of Ninth Street, there are entrances to two floor levels off the street. On the first, or upper, there is a spacious auditorium with stage and side and rear galleries, adaptable for dramatic, recreational, and social purposes. To the rear of the south gallery are three children's class rooms. A well-equipped kitchen is located on the east of the main floor on this level also. A recreation room, Boy Scout room, etc. constitute the lower level.

The changed industrial situation affecting all churches in eastern Pennsylvania coal mining districts, for a time, severely handicapped

the congregation in meeting its financial obligations. By 1944, however, the situation took on a brighter aspect. In an heroic effort, under the devoted and careful ministry of Dr. O. L. Mease, the debt, by the end of 1945, had been reduced to \$25,193. Just three days before his sudden, and to us, untimely death, April 27, 1946, he related to the writer how the congregation had rallied to the work of clearing the debt, and expressed the hope that by 1948 it could be entirely cancelled.

The first Sunday School was organized in the year 1864—a union school conducted jointly by the United Brethren and Reformed congregations. It was reorganized as a United Brethren school in 1870. Mahlon Sholl was elected the first superintendent of this school. Others who had a share in its promotion were: George B. Sinton, John L. Lehman, William Yost, Josiah F. Bird, Isaac Templin, Paul Klinger, H. C. Yordy, and E. Malick. At the close of the conference year 1871, the pastor, J. F. Mower, reported an enrollment of 170. Ten years later the enrollment was 216, and the school has grown steadily through the years. At the close of 1945 its enrollment stood at 414, of which number 34 were officers and teachers.

From the time of the organization of the class, the Shamokin First congregation was affiliated with the Northumberland Circuit until the year 1863. The pastors appointed during this time are listed under that circuit. For one year, 1863-64, it was a part of the Catawissa Circuit, and the pastor was Simon Zimmerman. From 1864-70, together with other churches, it was designated the Shamokin Circuit. The pastors serving the circuit were: G. A. Snapp and John Swank, 1864-65; Josiah P. Long, 1865-66; George A. Lee, 1866-68; William B. Evers, 1868-70. From 1870 onward the Shamokin Church constitutes a station with pastors as follows: John F. Mower, 1870-71; David O'Farrel and J. R. Reitzel, 1871-72; J. R. Reitzel, res., and J. D. Killian, 1872-73; P. C. Detweiler, 1873-74; George A. Brickley, res., and W. S. H. Keys, 1874-75; W. S. H. Keys, 1875-76; W. S. H. Keys, 9 mos., and J. R. Reitzel, 2 mos., 1876-77; J. R. Reitzel, 1877-78; J. R. Reitzel, res., and Israel Groff, res. and E. P. Funk, 1878-79; E. P. Funk, 1879-80; J. G. Steiner, 1880-82; J. Merrick, 1882-83; W. H. Uhler, 1883-86; M. J. Heberly, and H. B. Spayd, 1886-87; J. H. VonNieda, and H. B. Spayd, 1887-88; H. B. Spayd, 1888-90; C. P. Cowling, 1890-1894; C. A. Mutch, 1894-96; Rudolph Rock, 1896-98; Rudolph Rock and I. H. Albright, 1898-99; I. H. Albright, 1899-1901; A. A. Long, 1901-06; A. K. Wier, 1906-11; M. H. Jones, 1911-12; A. S. Beckley, 1912-14; A. S. Beckley died, and I. Moyer Hershey, 1914-15; I. Moyer Hershey, 1915-16; H. J. Behney, 1916-38; O. L. Mease, 1938-April 27, 1946.

Shamokin, Second Church

Uniontown, West Shamokin, Tharptown, and Emmanuel, are the various names which the church, now most generally known as "Shamokin Second Church" has borne. The organization had its sponsorship through First Church in 1884, when the Rev. W. H.



Shamokin Second Church



Zion Church

Uhler was pastor. The first board of trustees consisted of Josiah Bird, Clinton Tharp, and James A. Miller. The charter members of the class were Clinton Tharp, Casper A. Tharp, Mrs. Elizabeth Tharp, Mrs. Joseph A. Miller, J. Miller, and Mrs. Elmer Mutchler. James A. Miller was the first superintendent of the Sunday School and George Spangler was his assistant.

The lot with the school building on it where the large old red brick school building now stands was purchased in 1884. The school building was practically rebuilt, and dedicated in 1885 by J. B. Daugherty, presiding elder. In 1886 the church was attached to Paxinos Circuit. C. W. Raver and J. A. Lyter served the circuit in 1886-87; and J. P. Cowling, 1887-88. In 1888 the church was supplied by H. C. Yordy; in 1889 it was left open to be provided with a supply by the presiding elder. Uriah Gambler, pastor of Paxinos Circuit, served this congregation for the year 1890-91. M. H. Jones and J. W. A. Kelley served as supply ministers for the year 1891-92.

The present church building was erected in 1894-95 at a cost of \$2,600. The congregation had again been attached to the mother church in 1893 and remained with it until the conference session of 1895. C. W. Cowling was pastor 1893-94, and C. A. Mutch 1894-95. The parsonage was erected in 1886 as a circuit parsonage. It was remodeled in 1916 at a cost of two thousand dollars. The two story brick school house adjoining the present church was re-purchased in 1931 and is being used for church school work and for social and recreational purposes. Extensive improvements were made to church and parsonage in 1939 at a cost of \$1,831. Both buildings were repainted, the floor of the worship room was covered with beautiful carpet, and new installations were made at the parsonage. This was accomplished under the ministry of the Rev. C. A. Funk.

Trustees at the present are Harry R. Yost Sr., Leon Dietz, Darwin Maurer, Charles Yost, and Emerson Henninger. Officers of the Sunday School are Charles Yost, Warren Thomas, George Frederick Jr., Evelyn Sherry, Ruth Yost, and Arlene Spotts. Mrs. Catherine Newberry, Mrs. Rena Killinger, and Mrs. Darwin Maurer head the

work of the Women's Missionary Society. Mrs. R. S. Heberlig and Jean Carter have charge of Christian Endeavor work.

The Rev. C. A. Mutch had two terms as pastor of this congregation. Other pastorates in this, the northern part of the conference area, were at Sunbury Church and Montana (Aristes) charge. He was born in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. When he was ten years of age his parents moved to a farm in North Annville Township, Lebanon County. Brother Mutch was licensed at the conference of 1887 and ordained in 1890. From 1894 until 1932 he was a member of, and for much of the time chairman of, the First Year's Study Course Committee. He wrote numerous articles for the Religious Telescope and other religious periodicals. His pastorates included twelve regular appointments and two supply appointments in addition to those mentioned above. Lebanon Valley College honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1937.

During 1895-98 J. W. A. Kelley was minister. From 1898 to 1916 this congregation was affiliated with Shamokin Circuit. Since 1916 the following ministers have served this church: J. F. Brown, 1916-19; H. F. Boeshore, 1919-21; I. D. Lowery, 1921-23; E. P. Kratzer, 1923-25; C. A. Mutch, 1925-28; Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1928-34; C. A. Funk, 1934-43; and R. S. Heberlig, 1943-46.

Sunbury Otterbein Church

Efforts to establish a church in Sunbury began in 1873. In that year J. Willis Connery was appointed to Northumberland Mission Station which had Sunbury as one of its appointments. John F. Mower was appointed to Sunbury Mission in 1874. In 1875 and in 1883 Sunbury appointment appears, being attached to Paxinos Circuit. Sunbury appointment was attached to Milton Mission in 1892. A. H. Souillard served the charge 1892-95; and J. M. Walters 1895-96. Whether a class had been organized at any time during this period is uncertain. In 1891 a special commission on missions recommended that if after investigation an agreement be reached a lot located in the northeastern part of the city be purchased. This recommendation was not carried out.

On the evening of May 17, 1896, R. R. Butterwick, pastor of Paxinos Circuit, held a service in the Good Intent Hook and Ladder Hall on South Fourth Street. This marked the beginning of a more permanent work. A class organized soon thereafter was granted a charter of incorporation by the county court July 15, 1899. This class consisting of twenty-eight members, on November 28 of the same year, bought from the Evangelical congregation a church, parsonage, and lot, located at the corner of Vine and Fourth Streets for the sum of three thousand dollars. Trustees then serving the class were Frank D. Rabuck, C. C. Bartholomew, Albert Miller, J. R. Jones, and M. L. Zimmerman. The church was dedicated by the United Brethren in the month of June 1900, Bishop E. B. Kephart officiating and Charles Bauer, pastor, assisting.

A new church with parsonage attached was erected on the site



Sunbury Church

of the former buildings under the ministry of S. L. Rhoads. The cornerstone was laid in September 1909, and the completed house of worship was dedicated April 17, 1910 by Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder. Its cost in money paid was sixteen thousand dollars; however, considering the material of the old buildings which went into the construction of the new, its value was more nearly twenty thousand.

Additional ground north of the church and some properties on Vine Street were purchased in 1915. A Sunday School annex was constructed, improvements were made to the original building, and a new heating system installed in 1922 at a cost of \$22,627.82. Reopening services were held September 27. A two-manual Estey Minuette pipe organ with chimes was installed in 1930. Dr. Enck was present for both these special occasions. The Rev. Jacob F. Brown, under whose ministry these forward steps were taken, was pastor at Sunbury from the fall of 1919 until his death, May 6, 1934. He was born at Lampeter, Lancaster County. His local church connection was with St. John's Church, Paradise, as a young layman. He toiled incessantly for the welfare of the charges he served. The Sunbury Church increased from 294 to 579 in membership during his ministry.

The disastrous flood of March 1936 along the Susquehanna River poured its muddy waters into parsonage and church to a height

of seven feet above the street floor. This was an extremely distressing experience for both pastor and congregation. Pastor Hallman, just two months prior to the flood, had appointed a committee to lay plans for liquidation of a standing debt of \$7,800. This effort was just beginning to function when the flood struck. The cost of repairs, redecoration, and new furnishings raised the debt to \$15,200. By heroic effort the entire amount was secured by 1944, and a real "Victory Day" was celebrated on September 17.

Laymen serving in official capacities are: Trustees, W. Edward Moyer, Francis L. Shaffer, Ammon J. Drumm, Charles M. Stoner, Bryson E. Campbell, L. H. Goodman, and Roy D. Bastian; Sunday School, Martin H. Gass, Leroy Kessler, Mrs. Carrie Steele Baker, Mrs. Jane Goodman, Mrs. Albert Miller, Mrs. L. A. Schrader, Nevin P. Garman, Robert Arbogast, D. H. Hockenbrough; Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. Jane Goodman, Mrs. W. Edward Moyer, Iola Rubendall; Otterbein Guild, Hazel Campbell, Elizabeth Stoner, Helen Wolfe. E. D. Rabuck served as Sunday School Superintendent for twenty-five years. Mrs. Valeria Miller is the only surviving member of the charter class of 1896. Many of the present members of the church were enrolled by her on the Cradle Roll. She has been very active in many phases of church life.

Ministers serving Sunbury Church with terms of service are as follows: M. H. Jones, 1897-99; Charles Bauer, 1899-01; J. F. Smith, 1901-05; C. Wallace Miller, 1905-07; S. L. Rhoades, 1907-11; C. A. Mutch, 1911-13; M. H. Wert, 1913-16; J. M. Walters, 1916-19; J. F. Brown, 1919-34; and G. W. Hallman, 1934-46.

Zion Church, Coal Township

Zion Church on Treverton Road several miles west of Shamokin was organized May 4, 1916, at a special quarterly conference held at the home of Daniel D. Klinger. This church, like Shamokin Second Church, is the child of Shamokin First Church. The Rev. I. Moyer Hershey, pastor of First Church, and members of its official board, transacted the business incident to organization.

The following persons constituted the charter membership roll: Mr. and Mrs. Daniel D. Klinger, Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas, Helen and Howard Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. George Tharp, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Tharp, Raymond and Norman Tharp. Daniel Klinger, George Tharp, John Thomas, Joseph Klinger, and Daniel Tharp were elected trustees. Other officers elected were: Daniel Klinger, Sunday School superintendent; George Tharp, class leader; and John Thomas, steward.

A frame church building was erected in 1916. The cornerstone was laid May 30 by Dr. I. Moyer Hershey, assisted by the Revs. J. F. Brown and M. H. Wert. Dedicatory services were held in December, being conducted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent. Other ministerial brethren having part in the service were J. H. Behney, I. Moyer Hershey, J. F. Brown, and J. C. Deitzler.

The organization has grown to a church membership of fifty-one and a Sunday School enrollment of eighty.

Church trustees at present are Mahlon Gearhart, Ferdinand Madara, Joseph Crowle, Clarence Drumheller, and Kenneth Erdman; Women's Missionary Society officers, Mrs. Ferdinand Madara, Mrs. Adam Ressler, and Mrs. Joseph Crowle. In the fall of 1916 the class was attached to Shamokin Circuit, and in 1928 to Shamokin Second Church.

4. Abandoned Churches and Classes of Northumberland County

Malick's or Mt. Zion Church

"Mile Run United Brethren Church" was organized during the winter of 1845-46. A frame church building was erected on a triangular piece of land containing eighty square perches sold by Henry Malick and wife to John Heninger, Daniel Heninger, and David Malick, trustees for the congregation. The stone in the peak of the front gable-end tells the story: "U. B. Mt. Zion,—Built 1847—Rebuilt 1894." It was the first house of worship erected by the United Brethren in Northumberland County. In addition to the names given above as trustees, there appear on quarterly conference proceedings during the period 1847-69 those of Peter Malick, John R. Malick, Charles Conrad, and Adam S. Renn. It can readily be seen why the church became known to be "Malick's Church."

The building stands in a more or less isolated rural area about five miles southeast of Sunbury and one and one-half miles west of Augustaville. It was rebuilt at a cost of six-hundred dollars during the ministry of C. E. Boughter while he served the Paxinos Circuit. Through the first half century of its existence it wielded a great influence for United Brethrenism. Though not regularly used since about 1925, those influences continue to live in the congregations at Shamokin and Sunbury—in fact in all of the present congregations of the northern end of the conference.

The parents of the Rev. U. S. G. Renn and his sister, Sophia Alice, the wife of the Rev. Monroe P. Sanders, were members here. Rev. Sanders, his wife, and a son, are buried in the cemetery adjoining the church, where many of the founders and later members of the congregation are interred. He was born in Lebanon County, April 7, 1847. While a mere boy he entered the Union Army and through life suffered from the effects of a gunshot wound received in battle. In 1877 he was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, being the third ministerial graduate. He was granted annual conference license in 1878. After ordination in 1883, he had nine years of active service, dying May 10, 1892, while serving Marietta Circuit.

The Rev. U. S. G. Renn, a spiritual son of Malick's Church, became a member of annual conference in 1888, and served the following appointments: Manor Circuit, Manheim, Elverson, Mont Clare, Oberlin, and Ephrata. Following his pastorate at Ephrata he entered Bonebrake Theological Seminary in 1900, and after graduation was sent to Reading Memorial Church, and from there to Middletown, from which church he was transferred to Harrisburg State Street Church, where he died after a brief illness in 1912.

(On June 4, 1947, the building and contents of Malick's Church were sold for the sum of \$383.70, which amount was set aside for permanent upkeep of the cemetery. The contents, consisting of twenty-one benches, two stoves, several chairs, lamps, carpet, and organ, for the most part were bought by persons interested in them as mementos.)

Milton Church

A class of fifteen members was organized at Milton by W. H. Uhler, presiding elder of Shamokin District, on August 10, 1892. The following year a church costing \$1,500 was erected on a lot centrally located. A. H. Souil-

lard was pastor 1892-95, and J. M. Walters 1895-96; C. S. Miller and H. E. Miller, 1896-97; M. H. Jones, 1897-98; J. W. A. Kelley, 1898-99; Charles Bauer, 1899-1900; and H. M. Klinger, 1900-01. By change of conference boundary in 1901, Milton Church became a part of Allegheny Conference.

Reeser's or Pleasant Hill Church

The Reeser family lived in the vicinity of Snyderstown. This family, together with other rural people of Rush, Shamokin, and Upper Augusta Townships held services in the houses of members beginning about the year 1850. David and William Persing, Andrew Rhinehart, Elias Reed, John Reed, David and Amos Reeser, were leaders and officers of the class. John Reed, Elias Reed, and Reuben Fahringer, were appointed trustees in 1865. In the following year they were instructed to secure title to a church lot, and in 1867 to secure money and material for a church building. The Reeser's Schoolhouse and the Upper Augusta M. E. Church were used during these several years as places of worship. We have no information as to the time of erection of a church house. We do know that Pleasant Hill Church was destroyed by a tornado in 1883, and that a new church was built soon thereafter. These houses of worship stood just north of the Shamokin Branch of the Northern Central Railroad near Snyderstown.

David M. Reeser, for some years a local preacher, was recommended for annual license in 1858. He attended several sessions of annual conference. Proceedings of the year 1865 state that he "was killed in the battle at Petersburg, Virginia."

Bear Gap appointment was attached to Catawissa Circuit in 1863.

Georgetown (Dalmatia) was an appointment on Lykens Valley Circuit in 1873.

5. Introduction: The Churches of Columbia County

The ministers serving the old Northumberland Circuit made serious attempts to bring the Gospel to scattered groups of settlements more or less isolated because of the mountainous topography of the country. The quarterly conference proceedings of May 3, 1862 list appointments at St. Paul's Church, Slabtown, Roaring Creek, Sharp Ridge, Thomas Schoolhouse, and Hauling Run. At later periods Centralia and Mid Valley are listed.

Welsh Church was on the list of appointments as early as 1857. In 1840 a number of Welsh immigrants came to Locust Township and bought farms. Ten years later James Humphreys and Michael Phillips gave a plot of ground on the road to Ashland, about two miles south of the present village of Numidia for the use of the Baptist denomination. A church was erected by them that year. Many of these families having gone to Canada, the United Brethren bought their house of worship in about the year 1861. In 1908 the church building was abandoned and in 1909 it was torn down. Some of the above named appointments were discontinued, others were absorbed as nearby permanent classes were established. At the present writing there are four houses of worship in the lower half of Columbia County.

6. The Churches of Columbia County

Aristes Church

In the year 1870 Reuben Fahringer organized a class in the school-

THE CHURCHES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

house in the little mining town of Montana, now Aristes. Mr. Fahringer was one of the early trustees of St. Paul's church, by whose class he was recommended for quarterly conference license in 1864. He received annual license in 1870 but served only locally or as a supply. The class was attached to the following circuits: Northumberland, 1870-72; Mt. Carmel, 1872-74; Catawissa, 1874-85; Mt. Carmel, 1885-89; Montana, 1889-93; Catawissa, 1893-98; Mt. Carmel, 1898-1899; and Catawissa, 1899-1923. The first house of worship was a frame building.

During the pastorate of the Rev. P. M. Holdeman plans were laid in April 1916 to erect a new church. The cornerstone was laid by the Rev. H. J. Behney July 29, 1917. The substantial cement-block building has a well-proportioned worship room, a Sunday School room with galleries on three sides, and a basement adaptable for social purposes. Its cost was twenty-thousand dollars, which amount was paid in its entirety by 1924. Dr. Enck dedicated the edifice July 20, 1919. The church membership at the time numbered 114. M. E. Kostenbauder, now trustee emeritus, labored untiringly to make this building possible.



Aristes Church

The Rev. Holdeman resigned November 1, 1917 upon being appointed Army chaplain, and the Rev. Samuel A. Rauch succeeded him in January 1918. Upon assuming charge, he worked zealously and successfully in having the building completed. There were some serious difficulties, chief of which were those common to a period when a nation is at war. Brother Rauch was recommended for license by the Lebanon Salem Church in 1898. He was admitted to the annual conference in 1900, and the following year transferred to Nebraska Conference. He served churches in Nebraska and Kansas until he returned to Eastern Pennsylvania to take up the work on Catawissa Circuit. While pastor of Manor Circuit, he passed to his eternal reward on March 10, 1944, within twelve days of reaching his seventieth birthday.

Improvements made to the church building in 1932-33 involved an expenditure of \$2,500. A dwelling bought for use as a parsonage was dedicated by Dr. Enck September 15, 1940. The following persons comprise the present board of trustees: R. M. Kostenbauder, Lander Snyder, Weller Hunsinger, Elton Hunsinger, Harold V. Bloom Sr., Elwood Fetterman Sr., and Russel Oakum. Other members of the official board are: William Beaver, James Mensch, Allen Mensch, Margaret Kostenbauder, Ruth Oakum, Rose Raker, Mrs. C. L. Zimmerman, Elsie Bucher, and Ruth Oakum.

Pastors of Aristes Church since 1923 are: H. H. Miller, 1923-26; G. W. Hess, 1926-30; Ira Fortna, 1930-32; A. W. Dambach, 1932-38; C. E. Esterline, 1938-39; and John Dunham, 1939-46.

Fisherdale Church, Cleveland Township

This church is located about three miles southwest of Numidia in Cleveland Township. During the year 1879 the people of the hamlet of Fisherdale felt the need of a conveniently located place of worship. Consequently several heads of families, namely, Isaac Fisher, Jonas Rupp, Christian Mensch, David Billman, and others sought permission to hold Sabbath School in the schoolhouse. A union school was organized with Isaac Fisher as superintendent. After a short time these people desired also to have preaching services.

The pastors of Catawissa Circuit began to serve them in the year 1880. A "Bush Meeting" was held in a woods not far from the place where Fisherdale Church now stands. Several conversions resulted and in the year 1883 a class was organized. A trustee board consisting of Phenis Thomas, Franklin Mowery, Christian Mensch, David Billman Sr., and Isaac Fisher, was organized. A frame church was erected mostly through the labors of the members, Christian Mensch being the head carpenter. After more than two years' labor the work was completed, and the church dedicated in 1886. The deed drawn up in the same year stipulates that Isaac Fisher and wife Harriet sell two plots of ground; one for a church building and the other for a cemetery, for the sum of five dollars.

In the winter of 1886 the Rev. George W. McKee conducted a great revival which resulted in a number of converts and additions to church membership. About twenty years later the foundation walls needed strengthening. The building was raised several feet and the foundation rebuilt. Trustees then were D. F. Mensch, David Mowery, W. B. Levan, A. C. Camp, and Christian Mensch. In 1922 the building was repainted on its exterior and interior, an electric plant, and new heating system were installed, at a cost of \$960. In 1937 a Sunday School annex and vestibule were constructed, and the original building again repainted and redecorated. Expenditures amounting to \$1,300 were immediately provided for. Trustees serving the congregation at the time were John Mowery, Harold Mowery, C. F. Gable, Charles Shaffer, and Martin Mensch.

The official board now is composed of Lloyd Gougler, Martin Mensch, Charles Shoffer, Harold Mowery, Ralph Ramsey, Charles Shaffer, Howard Shaffer, Allen Mourer, Mrs. Martin Mensch, and Jacque Ramsey. The church has always been affiliated with Catawissa Circuit—the ministers who served Fishersdale are listed under it.

Freewill Church, Roaring Creek Township

William Yeager, in 1874, offered one-hundred dollars and an acre of ground to any denomination which would build a house of worship on his land. Two years later Monroe P. Sanders, who was then traveling Catawissa Circuit, held a meeting in Mr. Yeager's grove. Forty persons were converted and joined the church in October 1876. Plans were immediately made for the erection of a frame building 28 x 40 feet in size. S. R. Gipple, who was sent to the circuit in February 1877, was instrumental in having the building completed. It was dedicated in September 1877. Mr. Yeager, Lewis Bunge, Michael Manhart, and Jeremiah Scott were among those interested in promoting the work of the class.

The building was remodeled in 1890 and in 1902. Certain renovations were about completed when on the night of October 18, 1914, through the explosion of gasoline, it was completely destroyed. The congregation, though disheartened, summoned courage and began the task of rebuilding. In the meantime services were held in Strasser's Schoolhouse. The new frame church was dedicated November 28, 1916. The Rev. P. M. Holdeman was in charge of the services. Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, preached morning and evening, and performed dedicatory rites. Trustees who charted the course of rebuilding were Lewis Bunge, W. H. Adams, Oscar Bunge, Harry Schlieder, and Thomas Yeager.

Lay people now holding official positions are: Mr. and Mrs. Troy S. Merkal, Frank M. Snyder, Wesley H. Gilbert, Frances M. Hower, Bertha M. Gilbert, Mrs. Samuel Freese, and Geraldine Snyder. The congregation, since its founding, has been part of Catawissa Circuit.

St. Paul's Church, Franklin Township

The quarterly conference of Northumberland Circuit, David Hoffman, presiding elder, John Swank, preacher in charge, held February 9, 1861 in Slabtown M. E. Church, passed the following resolution: "Resolved that we build a new meetinghouse on a piece of land which may be secured from Samuel Diemer near his furnace." Jeremiah Fahringer, Charles Metz, and Siba Bird were appointed trustees to supervise construction. The furnace here referred to was built by Samuel Bittler, and was known as "Esther Furnace." The appointment was sometimes called by the same name. The frame building erected was dedicated by David Strickler, presiding elder, on May 3, 1862, G. W. Miles Rigor then being pastor.

Local church officials reporting to quarterly conference during the years 1862-69 were: Reuben Leinz, Charles Egolf, Reuben Fah-

**Fisherdale Church****St. Paul's Church**

ringer, Peter Huber, J. S. Fahringer, George Rupp, John Cooper, Charles Metz, N. Kostenbauder, Lafayette Fetterman, and Lloyd F. Reider.

While the Rev. P. H. Balsbaugh was pastor, the church building was enlarged and remodeled, and partly refurnished, at a cost of \$1,662.59. Dr. D. D. Lowery preached on the occasion of reopening services held September 29, 1907. J. W. Rider, Amos Teple, Haines Yost, Obadiah Yocum, and Clark Yost were trustees at the time of reconstruction. Concerning his relation to this work, pastor P. H. Balsbaugh wrote: "The task of rebuilding or remodeling St. Paul's was a hard one for me to oversee, it being my first venture in church building, and the successful outcome of the task is due to my friends and co-workers, who arduously toiled and generously contributed to its success."

The first circuit parsonage was built during the conference year 1880-81, when L. R. Kramer was pastor. This house was enlarged in 1890. The present parsonage—No. 475 Mill Street, Catawissa—was bought in 1928 for the sum of five thousand dollars. Some needed improvements were made to the parsonage in 1936. At the same time new pulpit furnishings were installed in St. Paul's Church.

The roster of the official board now consists of the names: Ellis Artley, George V. Hower, Orvin L. Krum, Morgan Davis, Warren Watkins, Ralph Wintersteen, Sterling S. Levan, Alice V. Krum, Donald Widger, Grace Arlene Small, Mrs. Margaret Artley, Dolores Jean Small, Mrs. Kenneth Artley, Mrs. Pierce Rider, and Mrs. Josephine Rhodes.

The ministers who served this church are listed under the following circuits with which it has been affiliated: Northumberland, 1861-63; Catawissa, 1863-64; Shamokin, 1864-70; Northumberland, 1870-72; Mt. Carmel, 1872-74; and Catawissa, 1874-1946.

7. Origin and Expansion of Circuits of Schuylkill County

The earliest preaching appointments in Schuylkill County were made by those local and conference-appointed ministers who labored within the area of the original Lebanon Circuit. Schuylkill

Mission, a conference appointment in 1843-44, was composed of classes of Berks County, not of any in Schuylkill County, as one might expect. Felix Light was probably the first minister to come within the bounds of the county. During the early decades of the last century he preached periodically in a grove of pines opposite Gunkle's Tavern in Pinegrove. His work was the beginning of a movement which culminated in the organization of a permanent class at Pinegrove.

From Pinegrove the work fanned out eastward through Schuylkill Haven as far as Tamaqua, northward to Tremont and Frackville, and northwestward through the gaps of the several mountains to Deep Creek or Hegins Valley. The large Pinegrove Circuit was divided in 1857. Pinegrove, Riland's Furnace, Tremont, and Deep Creek classes formed the reduced Pinegrove Circuit; Dresstown, Schuylkill Haven, Buehler's, and Landingville classes constituted the newly created Schuylkill Haven Circuit. Pinegrove Circuit was further reduced five years later when Deep Creek (Barry), Light's, John Kohr's, Jacob Schwalm's, and Williams Valley Classes were detached to form Deep Creek Mission.

Preaching appointments in close proximity to the Berks-Schuylkill boundary alternated in attachments to circuits bearing place-names found in each, as for example, Albany Circuit extended into Schuylkill County, whereas Landingville Circuit reached into Berks. On the northern and the western border, likewise, circuit boundaries extended beyond county lines.

Circuits of the county listed according to chronological order had their origin and continuance as follows: Pinegrove Circuit, 1846-1903; Schuylkill Haven Circuit, 1857-75; Deep Creek Circuit, 1862-63; Germanville (Valley View) Circuit (1), 1866-73; Tamaqua Circuit (1), 1867-73; Landingville Circuit (1), 1873-92; Tamaqua Circuit (2), 1874-80; Germanville (Valley View) Circuit, 1874-79; Pottsville Circuit (1), 1875-76; Valley View Circuit, 1879-1946; Tamaqua Circuit (3), 1882-90; Tremont Circuit, 1884-90; Cressona Circuit (1), 1890-95; Tamaqua Circuit (4), 1893-94; Pottsville Circuit (2), 1895-96; Cressona Circuit (2), 1896-1901; and Landingville Circuit (2), 1903-07.

Circuits listed in alphabetic order, and ministers appointed:

Cressona (1), 1890-95; S. S. Daugherty, 1890-95;

Cressona (2), 1896-1901; C. E. Boughter, 1896-99; O. G. Romig, 1899-1901.

Deep Creek, 1862-63; L. W. Craumer, 1862-63.

Germanville (Valley View) (1), 1866-73; Frederick List, 1866-67; James Shoop, 1867-71; William Dissinger, 1871-73.

Germanville (Valley View) (2), 1874-79; H. E. Hackman, 1874-76; Simon Noll, 1876-77; Lewis Fleisher, 1877-78; James Shoop, 1878-79.

Landingville (1), 1873-92: J. P. Miller, 1873-74; S. V. Mohn, 1874-76; Samuel Etter Jr., 1876-80; Amos Lehman, 1880-81; John M. Leshner, 1881-82; Lewis Fleisher, 1882-83; F. J. Butterwick, 1883-86; Gottlieb Myer, 1886-88; William Lamey, 1888-90; A. H. Souillard, 1890-92.

Landingville (2), 1903-07: P. M. Holdeman, 1903-04; H. B. Dohner, A. S. Beckley, 1904-05; A. S. Beckley, 1905-06; M. H. Wert, 1906-07.

Pinegrove, 1846-1903: J. Adam Sand, 1846-48; George Smith and L. R. Craumer, 1849-50; George Smith, 1850-52; Jacob Roop, 1852-53; Simon Noll, 1853-55; David Hoffman, 1855-57; J. H. Lowery, 1857-60; L. W. Craumer, 1860-62; Jacob Doerkson, 1862-63; James G. Fritz, 1863-65; Simon Noll, 1865-67; Lewis Fleisher, 1867-68; John G. Clair, 1868-69; Samuel Etter Jr., 1869-71; John Binkley, 1871-72; H. E. Hackman, 1872-73; James Shoop, 1873-74; Philip Shaeffer, 1874-75; W. H. Uhler, 1875-78; J. Francis Smith, Uriah Gambler, 1878-79; W. H. Cramer, 1879-80; W. H. Cramer, George Shindler, R. S. Arndt, 1880-81; George Shindler, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881; H. W. Zimmerman, 1881-82; L. W. Craumer, 1882-83; L. W. Craumer, Wm. H. Dressler, 1883-84; L. W. Craumer, 1884-85; H. S. Gabel, 1885-87; C. S. Miller, 1887-90; J. H. Mark, 1890-92; P. L. Hains, 1892-95; M. H. Miller, 1895-96; Charles Bauer, 1896-97; D. D. Buddinger, 1897-99; Amos Graul, 1899-1902; Amos Graul, H. F. Rhoad, 1902-03.

Pottsville (1), 1875-76; P. A. Bowman, 1875-76.

Pottsville (2), 1895-96: Allen G. Nye, 1895-96.

Schuylkill Haven, 1857-75: Christian Peffley, 1857-59; Henry W. Landis, 1859-60; D. M. Kauffman, 1860-63; David Hoffman, 1863-64; Amos F. Yeager, 1864-65; James G. Fritz, 1865-67; J. B. Daugherty, 1867-69; J. R. Meredith, 1869-71; J. P. Smith, 1871-74; John F. Smith, 1874-75.

Tamaqua (1), 1867-73: Job Light, 1867-68; George Stoll, 1868-70; J. H. Unger, 1870-72; J. H. Lowery, 1872-73.

Tamaqua (2), 1874-80: J. P. Miller, 1874-76; Amos Graul, 1876-77; Vacant, 1877-78; H. W. Zimmerman, 1878-79; D. D. Lowery, 1879-80.

Tamaqua (3), 1882-90: John M. Leshner, 1882-83; J. G. Fritz, 1883-85; C. S. Miller, 1885-86; H. A. Buffington, 1886-88; Uriah Gambler, 1888-89; J. P. Smith, 1889-90.

Tamaqua (4), 1893-94: Samuel Etter Jr., 1893-94.

Tremont, 1884-90; Newton Shannon, 1884-85; R. S. Arndt, 1885-89; J. A. Keiper, 1889-90.

Valley View, 1879-1946: James Shoop, 1879-81; J. W. Boughter, 1881-82; George Shindler, 1882-83; John Binkley, 1883-84; J. H. Lowery, 1884-85; F. G. Ruloff, 1885-88; Joel Light, 1888-94; James Shoop, 1894-95; C. O. Lehr, 1895-1901; O. G. Romig, 1901-04; R. S. Arndt, 1904-10; M. H. Miller, 1910-12; P. M. Holdeman, 1912-13; H. M. Mentzer, 1913-46.

8. The Churches of Schuylkill County

Barry, Salem Church

Barry Church is located approximately in the center of Barry Township along State Highway Route 919, about midway between Weishample and Mable. Our circuit riders held revival meetings at the home of John Kessler during the middle of the last century. His residence was in an oval-like depression on the Little Mountain, about four miles southeast of the present Barry Church. Here Katie Ann Rickert, later the wife of Joseph Morgan, was converted in the year 1853 at the age of thirteen. A few years later this body of believers worshipped in a community church located about a half mile south of the present church. A neglected burial ground overgrown with saplings marks the area where the church stood.

The United Brethren built a stone church which stood about one-hundred feet east of the present edifice. Jacob Klinger sold 113 square perches of ground for the consideration of five dollars to Daniel Kelinger, Edward Klinger, and Daniel Kessler, trustees for the United Brethren in Christ. The date of the instrument of transfer is August 18, 1856. Presumably the building was erected in the same year. The class was then known as "Deep Creek"—so named after the creek which had its sources in the mountains south of the Barry Church, then flows in a general westerly direction and empties into the Mahantango in the extreme western point of the county.

In 1857 Deep Creek class was attached to the reconstructed Pinegrove Circuit. In 1862 Deep Creek Mission, consisting of Deep Creek, Light's, John Kore's, Jacob Schwalm's, and Williams Valley Classes, was constituted. The class was still called Deep Creek in 1863, but when next appearing (1873) in boundary committee reports it appears as Barry. Daniel Kessler, Simon Light, and Jeremiah Klinger were trustees of property in 1861.

In October 1890, the presiding elder reported that "the brethren at Barry are preparing to build a new church in the spring." A frame structure was erected in 1891, and dedicated in the late fall of that year while the Rev. Joel Light served the congregation, then one of the points on Valley View Circuit. The trustees then in office were: Joseph Morgan, Charles Moser, Daniel Troup, Gabriel Klinger, and Cyrus Klinger. Mr. Moser was a public school teacher. He was chosen class leader first in the old stone church, continuing in that office for several years in the new church.

This enterprising congregation erected a modern parsonage, bungalow style, which was dedicated by Dr. S. C. Enck, November 29, 1927. The Rev. Homer H. Miller led the people in this project, which cost \$6,500, toward which amount, \$4,500 was collected by the end of the conference year. The church membership then numbered seventy-nine and the Sunday School enrollment, 175. The congregation paid for all purposes in that year, \$6,847. The Rev. C.

R. Swartz served the church four years. When he closed his pastorate there were three flourishing Christian Endeavor Societies with a total membership of seventy-two, a Sunday School of 167 enrollment, and a church enrollment of eighty-nine members.

Charles Dietrich, Harvey S. Harner, Edward Shuey, Walter Morgan, and Herbert Ludwig currently compose the trustee board. Mr. Dietrich was Sunday School superintendent and one of its teachers over a period of thirty years; Mr. Shuey, trustee and secretary of the board, twenty-eight years; Mr. Harner, treasurer of the church, and chorister of the Sunday School, twenty-three years; and Mr. Morgan, present superintendent, trustee, and steward, has given twelve years of active service in official work. Leroy Shuey, Mrs. Emma Morgan, Mrs. John Shuey, Mrs. Harvey S. Harner, Mrs. Irwin Clauser, Leroy Lucas, and Mildred Harner, together with the trustees, complete the roll of official members.

The ministers serving Barry Church are given under the following circuits with which it was affiliated: Pinegrove, 1857-62; Lykens, 1863-74; Germanville (Valley View), 1874-1913. For the year 1862-63, the class was attached to Deep Creek Circuit, L. W. Craumer, minister. From 1913 to 1926 the Barry Church and the Tremont Church formed a charge—also from 1932 to 1946. While the class itself constituted a charge, 1926-32, Homer M. Miller was pastor, 1926-28; and C. R. Swartz, 1928-32.

Cressona, Grace Church

There was a class of worshippers meeting in homes by the year 1875. The Rev. P. A. Bowman who was appointed to Schuylkill Haven also served the class at Cressona. In 1878 the class was attached to Pinegrove Circuit. At the quarterly conference held on the circuit March 30, 1878, the pastor, J. Francis Smith, reported having held a meeting at Cressona, and that two persons had joined the church. At this quarterly conference also Moses Fenstermacher was steward and A. S. Riland of Freidensberg was authorized to organize a Sunday School. At the third quarterly conference Gottlieb Wagner, George Bretz, and John N. Riland were appointed trustees. On May 1, 1880, they were instructed to erect a church building and to proceed according to Church Discipline. George Dengler succeeded Riland as Sunday School superintendent.

On January 1, 1881 the following persons supported the movement to buy a lot: Revs. L. W. Craumer, George Shindler, and R. S. Arndt; and Messrs. A. S. Riland, Specht, E. A. Sarge, George Sausser, Daniel Riland, and W. S. Wagner. A small lot was purchased for the sum of seventy-five dollars as per deed dated March 24, 1881. Trustees acting for the class were Luther S. Keefer, A. S. Riland, Gottlieb Wagner, Reuben Bretz, and John W. Riland. A church was erected thereon. This church was repaired in 1893.

During the pastorate of the Rev. D. E. Long, an exchange of church properties was made with the Evangelical Church. The

THE CHURCHES OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY



Cressona Church



Landingville Church

building then purchased by the United Brethren for the sum of two thousand dollars was located on a lot fronting fifty feet on Second Street, and extending eighty-five and one-half feet along Maple Street. The date of purchase was July 26, 1902. The trustees then were Albert F. Diebert, William A. Grieff, Milton Dress, William Thiel, and J. Frank Bretz.

A beautiful and commodious brick parsonage, costing \$10,584.60, was constructed in 1923. Dr. S. C. Enck dedicated this new manse November 18, 1923. Less than two thousand dollars remained to be paid after dedication. It was a very great—but a very successful—undertaking, considering that the membership at the time numbered 130. In 1931 the house of worship was completely renovated, carpeted, and redecorated at a total cost of \$4,715.89.

This church demonstrated a charitable attitude toward the pastor, the Rev. Harry F. Boeshore, under whose ministry the parsonage was built. Not long after the house was dedicated the Rev. Boeshore became critically ill and was compelled to cease active service. From that time until his death, January 24, 1926, he was permitted to reside in the parsonage. He was converted at a very tender age in Lebanon Salem Church and when a mere boy, at the age of sixteen, was granted quarterly conference license upon recommendation of said church. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1917. In 1913 he was admitted to annual conference and served Pottstown, Reading Trinity, Shamokin Second, and Cressona charges, in the order named.

Trustees serving the congregation are Isaac Berger, Morris Springer, Alvin Warner, E. D. Grieff, and George Kiehner. Officers of the Sunday School are John M. Seiger, Mrs. Vera Rauch Eichert, Alvin Warner, Cloyd Bagshaw, Anna Leininger, Daisy Sweigart; and the officers of the Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. I. Herring, Mrs. George Lindemuth, Mrs. E. D. Grieff, and Mrs. A. R. Warner.

The church has been attached to the following circuits: Schuyl-

kill Haven, 1875-78; Pinegrove, 1878-84; Landingville, 1884-90; Cressona, 1890-95; Pottsville, 1895-96; and Cressona, 1896-1901. Since 1901 its pastors have been: D. E. Long, 1901-03; C. A. Snively, 1903-06; H. J. Behney, 1906-09; D. S. Eshelman, 1909-10; Thomas Garland, 1910-12; Clarence Mease, 1912-15; L. R. Kramer, 1915-18; L. R. Walters, L. R. Kramer, 1918-19; Ira D. Lowery, 1919-21; H. S. Boeshore, 1921-23; H. S. Boeshore, John A. Kauterman Jr., 1923-24; John A. Kauterman Jr., 1924-38; H. M. Falstick, 1938-41; and H. M. Mathias, 1941-46.

Fearnot, St. Peter's Church, Hubley Township

The Jacob Schwalm class was an appointment on Deep Creek Mission charge as early as 1862. Great revival meetings were held in the "Old Block House" on Mr. Schwalm's farm. These meetings so strengthened the class that a church was erected in 1886. It was locally known as "Schwalm's Church." Jacob Schwalm, its founder, was born August 22, 1823, and died July 25, 1896. He married Justina Klinger. This consecrated couple was a pillar of strength for United Brethrenism in the valley for many years.

The cornerstone of the church bears the inscription: "St. Petrus Kirche der Vereinigten Brüder in Christi, 1886" (St. Peter's Church of the United Brethren in Christ). The church stands a short distance south of the group of houses forming the village which once bore the name, Cressona. When a Post Office was about to be established, a new name had to be found. After some suggestions were sent in to the federal department and all of them rejected, Mr. Oscar Carl, a local member, suggested "Fearnot" which was accepted. "He said these are the words of Jesus and he is sure there is no duplicate."

Rufus E. Carl, Oscar Messner, Lester Bixler, Ray Lettich, Harry Miller, Irene Hoffman, Titus Miller, and Daisy Lettich compose the official family of the church. It has always formed a part of Valley View Circuit.

Landingville Church

The Landingville class was organized by the Rev. David Hoffman in the year 1856. It was recognized by annual conference at its session in 1857 and attached to Schuylkill Haven Circuit. A frame church building was erected in 1869. Title to the lot, 48 by 62 feet, on which the church had already been built, was granted by deed dated November 26, 1872, to John Y. Houck, George Adams, and A. F. Diebert, trustees, for the consideration of fifty dollars. In 1893 under the management of the Rev. S. S. Daugherty, pastor, the church was handsomely repaired and the expenses paid for. In 1933 the building was raised two feet and generally repaired at a cost of \$1,754. Reopening services were held November 19, the Rev. H. M. Miller preaching the sermon.

Ed. Drumheller, W. M. Shoener, I. Foster Wagner, and Benjamin Fryer are its present trustees. Officers of the Sunday School are:



Fearnot Church



Spring Glen Church

L. M. Miller, I. Foster Wagner, L. V. Maine, W. E. Fritz, George Bair, and Edna Miller. The Women's Missionary Society officers are Edna Miller, Mrs. W. E. Fritz, Mrs. Mary Umphry, and Mrs. George Deibert. L. M. Miller has held lay license for more than fifty years.

The circuits to which the Landingville church has been attached are: Schuylkill Haven, 1857-70; Tamaqua, 1870-73; Landingville, 1873-92; Cressona, 1892-95; Bern, 1895-1901; Cressona, 1901-03; Bern, 1907-25; Shoemakersville, 1925-38; and Cressona, 1938-46. It was a separate charge 1903-07, and the ministers who served were: P. M. Holdeman, 1903-04; H. B. Dohner, 1904-05; A. S. Beckley, 1905-06; and M. H. Wert, 1906-07.

Pinegrove, St. Paul's Church

The regularly appointed and local preachers of the Lebanon Valley extended their ministries through and beyond the Swatara Gap during the early years of the nineteenth century and preached to the people of Pinegrove. The Rev. Christian S. Crider, while in the first year of his pastorate at Lebanon Salem, held a successful revival in that town in a storehouse adjoining Paul Barr's drug store. A class consisting of the following charter members was organized: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barr, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Barr, Mr. and Mrs. John Huber, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spancake, Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Schropp, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Buechler, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hackman, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gamble, Mr. and Mrs. William Lutz, and Frederick Spoorman.

In February 1846, the Rev. John Adam Sand was transferred from Lebanon Circuit to Pinegrove Mission. In support of the work of this charge, annual conference of the same year took the following action: "That the Home Missionary Society appropriate \$200 to Pinegrove Mission. If, however, J. A. Sand collect money, he shall refund it to the Home Missionary Society." A two-story frame building, 35 by 42 feet, was erected at a cost of \$2,000 on a one-half town lot purchased from George N. Eckert and wife Emily for the sum of twenty-five dollars. The deed of transfer is dated February

25, 1847, and in it Paul Barr, Jacob Barr, Henry B. Schropp, Henry Spancake, and Peter Gamble are named as trustees.

Names of trustees recorded in quarterly conference proceedings from 1861 to 1881 are: Lewis Hackman, Paul Barr, William Auchenbach, William Reed, Daniel Gensemer, Monroe Hackman, Singleton Hikes, William Lutz, Lewis Fleisher, John Wunderlich, Michael Buchmeyer, George Sauser, Henry Lewis, Henry Spooman, and Jacob Klaur. For the same period, the following are listed as superintendents of the Sunday School: Paul Barr, Singleton Hikes, Christian Buchmeyer, Ed. Barr, and E. A. Sarge. Mr. Hikes continued in that work for more than twenty-five years.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Clint S. Miller, the congregation bought a lot, sixty by three-hundred feet, fronting on Pottsville Street and erected thereon a parsonage and a frame church building at a cost of \$7,000. The old property which was located on Tulpehocken Street was sold for the sum of \$1,550. The cornerstone for the new church was laid May 5, 1889, and the structure was dedicated in the fall of the same year. In the latter part of July 1892 a violent storm wrecked the so recently completed house of worship. It was a disheartening experience for the congregation. Inasmuch as there remained a mortgage of \$2,300 on the wrecked building, the undertaking to rebuild seemed impossible. The presiding elder at the ensuing session of annual conference stated: "Our brethren have nothing left but the wreck and the debt. They are not able to rebuild, and if we as United Brethren are to have a church at Pinegrove, this conference must take it in hand and pay a good portion of it."

Interested citizens supported the effort of the congregation to raise cash. The sum of twelve-hundred dollars was collected and construction began in December of the year 1892. The completed edifice was dedicated during the year 1893-94. The Rev. James Shoop, presiding elder, kept the necessity of special support before the conference over a period of several years. The debt was finally canceled in 1901. The acceptable ministry of P. L. Hains (1892-95) had great influence for success during the years when the burden was the heaviest.

This second building on East Pottsville Street was enlarged and improved in 1911 by the erection of a tower and vestibule at the southwest corner, an annex to the rear for the Primary classes of the Sunday School, a pulpit recess, galleries, placing of memorial stained glass windows, new pews and a new steam heating plant, making an expenditure of \$5,000. Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder, and pastor L. R. Kramer held reopening services September 24, 1911. In 1917 an electric light system was installed; and a Social Hall constructed in the basement in 1922. In the fall of 1933 a two-manual Moller pipe organ was installed, a metal ceiling placed in the church auditorium, and the floors and pews refinished. Dr. Enck was present for dedicatory services on January 7, 1934, which were in charge of pastor Harry W. Zechman.



Pinegrove Church and Parsonage

The parsonage was thoroughly altered and modernized in its interior structure and in equipment, and an R. C. A. Sound System was installed, at a total cost of \$3,000, during the conference year 1940-41.

On April 19, 1943 the quarterly conference approved plans for a general remodeling of the church and the erection of an addition. A modern Christian Education Building, comprising twenty-two class and departmental assembly rooms and a prayer chapel, was added to the rear of the original structure and attached to the parsonage. The furnishings, equipment, and worship appointments are adequate and convenient in every respect. The church worship room was partly reconstructed and refitted. An eight-foot altar was made central and has for a reredos a beautiful glass window which presents Christ as the Good Shepherd. All of the interior was altered to correspond in dignity and appearance to the chancel and altar. The tower was rebuilt and the entire exterior of the building including the parsonage was brick veneered. Five new stained glass windows were added. Work was begun on the project in September 1943. Its cost was \$30,000. Services of dedication were held Novem-

ber 19, 1944. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached at the morning hour of worship and in the afternoon. At the latter service the Bishop read the Litany of Dedication. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, preached at the evening service.

The Rev. Harold C. Hollingsworth was pastor during this latest and rather marvelous transformation of both parsonage and temple of worship. This has been his first appointment since being graduated from Bonebrake Theological Seminary. His endeavor to enlist youth in the work of the church, and his interest to improve modes of worship led to organizing and vesting of both a Junior Choir and a Youth Choir.

On the list of trustees of more recent years are the names of: Amos Boughter, Joseph W. Schwalm, William Werner, Harry Carl, Wilson Lewars, Robert Werner, George Harris, John Reed, and Allen Schwalm. With the addition of Claire, Harry, and Phaon Adams, Mrs. Luther Aungst, Margaret Bligan, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Carl, Mrs. Harry Carl, Florence and Thomas Haeseler, Mrs. Merritt Heim, Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. David Hummel, John H. Reed, Mrs. J. W. Schwalm, Fred and Slater Schwartz, the official roster of the church is complete as of the year 1945.

Ministers who served Pinegrove Church from 1846 to 1903 are listed under Pinegrove Circuit. Ministers serving since 1903 are as follows: H. F. Rhoad, 1903-04; L. R. Kramer, 1904-15; Amos Lehman, 1915-16; R. E. Morgan, 1916-21; J. A. Keiper, 1921-22; S. A. Rauch, 1922-26; J. E. Keene, 1926-33; H. W. Zechman, 1933-37; R. S. Heberlig, 1937-40; and H. C. Hollingsworth, 1940-46.

Sacramento, Messiah Church

The background of the church at Sacramento had its setting in the general expansion of class organizations in Deep Creek Valley. Hubley Class, mentioned in the boundary committee report of 1873 probably was meant for the Sacramento class. A frame church was built in that year. Cornelius Moyer, William Artz, and John Kohr, trustees, acquired a lot fronting forty feet on Tulpehocken Street and extending north on Elm Street one-hundred feet, for the sum of \$100. The church is located on the main valley road about two and one-half miles west of Valley View.

Among the lay people who compose the official board are Allen Zerbe, Ammon Scheib, Gurney Harner, C. G. Updegrove, Henry Stiely, Mrs. Irene Radel, and Mildred Harner.

For one year the church was attached to Lykens Circuit and since 1874 to Valley View Circuit.

Schuylkill Haven, Messiah Church

Some interested citizens of Schuylkill Haven invited the Rev. John Adam Sand, while in his first year (1846) on Pinegrove Circuit, to come to their town to preach. He accepted the invitation and continued to preach every two weeks during the summertime.

He conducted a protracted meeting in an old schoolhouse and later in the year formed a class. In connection with this effort and another protracted meeting in the home of David Dress, located west of Schuylkill Haven, a class was organized there, known as the "Dress" or "Dresstown Class."

Upon being reappointed to the circuit in 1847, the Rev. Sand set about to erect a house of worship. A lot twenty-five by one-hundred feet, located at the corner of St. John and Market Streets, was purchased by the trustees William Fisher and John Freeman at the price of \$150. A frame church house was erected on this lot in 1847. David Hoffman was appointed to the circuit in 1855. He reported having found but seven members in both classes. However, as the result of a revival effort, the membership was greatly increased.

Under the pastorate of the Rev. Daniel M. Kauffman the trustees William Deibert, Wendel Fenstermacher, Solomon Fidler, John Y. Houck, and Benjamin E. Drummheller met on August 22, 1860 at the home of S. M. Shultz and agreed to build a larger house of worship and chose as the church name: "Messiah Church of the United Brethren in Christ." The sum of twenty-five hundred dollars was set as a minimum with which to begin building. The pastor succeeded in collecting the amount designated. A new site was purchased on East Main Street for the sum of eight-hundred dollars on November 16, 1860. A brick building was erected—its cost, together with the furnishings, was \$3,160.40. S. M. Schultz, Wendel Fenstermacher, and Joseph Dengler composed the building committee. The old building was used for public worship until September 8, 1861, when it was sold for four-hundred dollars. It remains intact and is used as a dwelling.

In 1861, the pastor, with William Deibert, were appointed to draw up an act of incorporation and to apply to the county court for a charter. The signing of the application for a charter bore the names of Samuel M. Shultz, Wendel Fenstermacher, William Daubert, John Hendricks, Daniel Kaercher, Frederick Hess, Solomon Fidler, B. E. Drummheller, Charles Herbst, David Cummings, Joseph Mellon, George M. Boyer, William Deibert, and John Y. Houck. In 1885 a Women's Missionary Society of fifteen members was organized.

At a congregational meeting held August 8, 1899 it was decided to improve and enlarge the church building. The committee charged with this responsibility consisted of the trustees, Dr. C. P. Detweiler, Charles Schumacker, Emanuel Maberry, Moses Evely, and W. J. Schwenk, together with Charles Keller, M. W. Quinter, G. W. Maberry, August Hertzell, and B. F. Herliman. The total cost of these alterations was four-thousand dollars, and the entire amount was satisfactorily provided on the day of dedication. Dr. I. H. Albright conducted reopening services, December 31, 1899. The Rev. C. A. Mutch was pastor when the plans were formulated, and the Rev. S. B. Wengert when the work was completed.



Schuylkill Haven Church

During the years 1926 and 1927 further extensive improvements were made and new equipment installed, consisting of redecorations, new windows, new pulpit furniture, new heating plant, sound-proof curtains and new chairs for the Sunday School rooms, hardwood floors, and a new Moller pipe organ, at a total cost of \$10,226. Dr. S. C. Enck officiated at the day of dedication on Easter Sunday, 1927; the pastor, C. R. Beittel was in charge.

The first parsonage in the possession of the congregation was a dwelling which stood thirty feet from the church building. It was purchased on April 1, 1882, for the sum of \$1,300. The present large brick parsonage was erected during the pastorate of Dr. R. R. Butterwick at a cost of \$4,499.76. Dr. C. I. B. Brane dedicated the manse on November 1, 1908. The trustees were M. W. Quinter, W. J. Schwenk, John Kauterman Sr., Arthur Yost, and George Maberry. They, together with Dr. Butterwick, George P. W. Saul, and Thomas Luckens, constituted the building committee.

The Rev. John W. Luckens is a spiritual son of this congregation. He received quarterly conference license in 1922. Since ordi-

nation in 1929 he has served Hummelstown Circuit; Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Maryland; Reading Zion, and in the chaplaincy of the United States Army. John A. Kauterman Jr., a local preacher of much usefulness, also a member of Messiah Church, has supplied various appointments.

The several church organizations have for their officers the following: trustees—Vilas Staller, Joseph Fisher, Reuben W. Fisher, Everett Jones, George P. W. Saul, G. Frank Schumacher, and Paul Neyer; Sunday School—John A. Kauterman Jr., Mary Schwenk, Paul Miller, Austin Potts Jr., Dorothy Staller; Women's Missionary Society—Mrs. Leon Heckman, Mrs. Edward T. Uhler, Mrs. Celeste DeWitt, and Mrs. Clyde Jones. Other lay workers having given many years of faithful service are: Thomas Luckens and Joseph A. Fisher as lay preachers; Kathryn Schwenk, William Schwenk, Ella Palsgrove, and Sadie Schumacher in Sunday School work; Elva Quinter as choir director; and Mrs. Margaret Schumacher as teacher and Ladies' Aid president.

Ministers who served this church are listed under Pinegrove Circuit, 1846-57, and under Schuylkill Haven Circuit, 1857-75. Since 1875, when it became a station, the following were appointed: P. A. Bowman, 1875-77; J. C. Mumma, 1877-78; C. Seltzer Meily, 1878-79; J. D. Killian, 1879-81; H. B. Dohner, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881; Amos Graul, Oct. 1881-83; J. H. Mark, 1883-87; Amos Lehman, 1887-89; J. G. W. Herrold, 1889-90; J. G. Fritz, 1890-92; Amos Graul, 1892-94; C. S. Miller, 1894-96; C. A. Mutch, 1896-99; S. B. Wengert, 1899-1902; S. B. Wengert, J. R. Blecher, 1902-03; M. J. Mumma, 1903-07; R. R. Butterwick, 1907-08; S. G. Kaufman, 1908-11; D. D. Brandt, 1911-13; C. A. Mutch, 1913-16; G. M. Richter, 1916-19; P. H. Balsbaugh, 1919-22; C. R. Beittel, 1922-28; C. A. Snavelly, 1928-34; C. W. Hendrickson, 1934-37; C. E. Rettew, 1937-41; G. Jay Umberger, 1941-43; and Edward T. Uhler, 1943-46.

Spring Glen, St. Mark's Church, Hubley Township

Spring Glen congregation is one of the newer organizations in the conference. The house of worship is beautifully located on a wooded knoll several hundred feet south of the main valley road. It is the westernmost appointment on Valley View Circuit. There was an appointment on the circuit in 1885 by the name, "Springfield." This may have been a misnomer for "Springville," the earlier name for Spring Glen. For a number of years there were loyal United Brethren living in and about the village who went to Sacramento and Fearnot churches to worship. In time the demand for a place of worship more conveniently located became urgent.

A Sunday school was organized April 9, 1911 in the local school-house, with C. O. Koppenhaver as its superintendent. The attendance was encouraging, and steps were taken to erect a building. The work proceeded promptly. The cornerstone was laid May 25, 1911 and by September 24 the first Sunday school session was held

in the new building. The building was completed by the following spring and was dedicated by Dr. D. D. Lowery May 12, 1912. Its cost was \$3,250. C. O. Koppenhaver, Jacob Henry, I. Irvin Miller, Irvin Artz, and C. Henry Schwalm were the trustees. The Rev. M. H. Miller was the pastor in charge.

During the ensuing ten years the congregation grew rapidly, and therefore it was decided to build an annex on the north side of the original structure. The annex was dedicated May 31, 1925 by conference superintendent Dr. S. C. Enck, who preached morning and evening to a crowded house. A Sunday School Rally was held in the afternoon. The total cost was \$4,860, of which amount \$3,028 was collected before and on the day of dedication. The Rev. H. M. Mentzer gave inspiring leadership to this significant forward step in the congregation's progress. The present official roster contains the names of C. A. Koppenhaver, Charles Herb, Benjamin Koppenhaver, Boyd Hepler, Ivan Koppenhaver, Eston Artz, Lester Koppenhaver, Lester Eby, and Mrs. William I. Klinger. The church is attached to Valley View Circuit.

Tremont, St. John's Church

As early as 1857 the minister of Pinegrove Circuit had a regular preaching appointment at Tremont. The quarterly conference proceedings of that circuit for the years 1861-81 show that Tremont was a point on the circuit during all of that period, and that the following persons were officers: William Hoff, Simon Fegley, George Warfel, Tetrel Artz, George Boyer, Jacob Stark, Joel Sauser, Elias Donmoyer, Henry Donmoyer, George R. Hatter, E. Dixon, H. Dixon, and Jacob Erdman.

Information on the possession of a house of worship and its location is incomplete. There was a board of trustees from 1861 onward. In 1871 a newly created board was authorized to rent or build a church. In 1879 the board reported having leased the church building for six years, the rental to be paid through church repairs. The first congregation at Tremont was still operating in 1892 when its attachment was shifted from Cressona Circuit to Pinegrove Circuit. Earlier attachments to circuits were: To Pinegrove, 1857-84; to Tremont, 1884-90; and to Cressona, 1890-92.

The present organization had its origin in 1913. The Rev. P. M. Holdeman, while pastor of Valley View Circuit, held a prayer service at the home of John Ney on April 13. A second similar meeting was held at the home of John Conrad, and a third at the home of Ottis Knapp. The fourth meeting of the group was in the English Lutheran Church on May 14 at two o'clock in the afternoon. A Sunday School was then organized: forty-one persons were enrolled, and H. C. Schach, superintendent, Fred Koppenhaver, treasurer, and Katie Fetterhof, secretary, were elected its officers.

The Reverend Holdeman held an open air meeting on the lawn to the rear of the above mentioned Lutheran Church, June 24 to July

3, which resulted in six conversions, and so stimulated interest that at the close of the meetings a class of nineteen members was organized. Representatives of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society met with members of the new class on September 19. These representatives decided to recommend it as a class worthy to be received by the annual conference. The class pledged \$300 toward the support of a pastor beginning with the new conference year, and requested that the Reverend Holdeman be sent as their pastor. Annual conference of the year 1914 recognized the Tremont class and constituted the Tremont-Barry charge and appointed the Reverend Holdeman as pastor. He remained on the charge two years.

A series of nightly services began on New Year's eve 1913 which continued six weeks. There were twenty-eight conversions and accessions. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Herb and Mrs. Wilson Schaeffer. At a quarterly held at the pastor's home on Easter 1914, five trustees were elected and a movement was launched to buy the English Lutheran Church which was located on Clay Street. This very substantial two-story stone structure was purchased on August 11, 1914 for the sum of \$2,500. Rededication services were held on the Sabbath following by Bishop W. M. Weekley. Dr. D. G. Gossard preached at the evening service. Later the dwelling at number 37 Clay Street was acquired for the sum of \$1,700, for use as a parsonage.

Over the past several years renovations have been made and new furnishings bought as follows: repointing of the front wall, placing of new windows, new carpet, and redecoration of the main audience room. The stone in the front wall was changed to bear the name "St. John's Evangelical United Brethren Church."

Trustees serving the congregation at present are: Henry G. Herb, S. H. Herb, Harrison Moyer, Harry Carl, and Ray Wolfgang. Those who head the work of the several departments of church work are: William Carl, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoy, Mrs. William Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. William Carl, Luther Wolff, June Daniels, Mrs. Clarence Imschweiler, and Mrs. Eva Miller. John Goodman as superintendent of the Sunday School, Harry Yeagley as class leader, Mrs. Clarence Imschweiler as pianist, and Henry B. Herb as trustee have given many years of service to the work of this congregation. Brother Herb has continued in the trusteeship from the beginning to the present.

The following names compose the roll of ministers who have served St. John's Church: P. M. Holdeman, 1913-15; B. F. Goodman, 1915-27; C. E. Rickabaugh, 1927-28; Charles Lee, 1928-29; R. G. Bechtel, 1929-34; S. L. Rhoads, 1934-Feb. 16, 1941; E. M. Strickler, 1941-43; and Clarence I. Summy, 1943-46.

Tower City Church

The Rev. James Shoop organized a class in the year 1871 which



Sacramento Church



Tower City Church

had as its meeting place the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Kuntzleman. John B. Mattis, Charles Harbist, and H. G. Shultz were the trustees when the church was erected in 1872. The lot on which the church was built is that of the present church site, on East Grand Avenue—its cost was one hundred and fifty dollars. This house of worship was enlarged, a tower was erected and a bell placed. The building was generally remodeled in 1892.

A new brick church was dedicated by Bishop Wm. M. Bell July 11, 1920. The cornerstone had been laid by Dr. H. E. Miller July 13, 1919. The cost of construction and furnishings amounted to \$15,000. It consists of a main worship room on the street floor and a basement for Sunday School work. The furnishings are in oak; windows of gothic design were placed as memorials. Dr. S. C. Enck preached on the evening of the day of dedication. During the week following, the Revs. H. E. Miller, H. M. Mentzer, C. S. Miller, and P. M. Holdeman preached at evening meetings. The Rev. S. G. Haas, pastor, was in charge of the services.

The frame parsonage located next to the church at number 642 East Grand Avenue was built in 1905 at a cost of \$1,500, exclusive of additional ground bought for its site. The congregation observed the sixtieth anniversary of its founding June 11 to 19, 1931. Former pastors took part in the celebration, among them being the Reverend Shoop who organized the class.

The present trustees are: Allen I. Kissinger, Lester L. Jennings, Edgar M. Stover, Lee J. Warfield, Joseph Kehler, and Galen Knorr. Gurney A. Klinger is superintendent of the Sunday School, and associated with him as main officers are Mrs. William Wolfe, Joseph

L. VanHouten, Lee J. Warfield. Those in charge of Christian Endeavor are Mark Adams, Dale L. Jennings, and Mrs. Allen I. Kissinger. The four main officers of the Women's Missionary Society are Mrs. R. C. Penman, Mrs. Marlin Minnich, Mrs. Edna Carl, and Mrs. Allen I. Kissinger. Mrs. Fianna Krebs, a daughter of the Kuntzleman family in whose house the class met, Mrs. William B. Carl, Mrs. Jane Kuntzleman, and William Romberger respectively have had long and distinguished careers as workers in the local church and school.

In 1873 the church was attached to Williams Valley Circuit, with which it remained until 1884. From 1884 to 1890 it was attached to Tremont Circuit. In 1890 it was named a station with several classes attached. Ministers serving since that year are: J. A. Keiper, 1890-91; C. S. Miller, 1891-93; Uriah Gambler, 1893-94; J. M. Walters, 1894-95; R. S. Arndt, 1895-98; C. S. Miller, 1898-1901; William Beach, 1901-03; J. C. Pease, 1903-06; C. Wallace Miller, 1906-10; H. M. Trautman, 1910-12; N. I. Fake, 1912-14; O. G. Romig, 1914-16; G. W. Hess, 1916-18; S. G. Haas, 1918-21; R. E. Morgan, 1921-22; J. C. Deitzler, 1922-25; J. A. Keiper, 1925-31; Ira D. Lowery, 1931-34; S. A. Rauch, 1934-37; Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1937-39; C. E. Esterline, 1939-42; C. C. Witmer, 1942-43; and Lloyd E. Beamesderfer, 1943-46.

Valley View Church

In the preliminary survey of activities in Schuylkill County related at the beginning of this chapter, mention is made of classes known as Light's, John Kohr's, and Jacob Schwalm. These definitely existed in 1862 and may have been included in the "Deep Greek Classes" of the 1857 report. The Light's class was named for Simon Light (1825-1908), a local preacher and class leader who was active in the promotion of several classes and was at one time trustee for the Barry Church. John Kohr, also a local preacher and class leader, came from the Pinegrove region and married a Mrs. Harner. Jacob Schwalm lived farther down the valley in the vicinity of the present village of Fearnot.

Sometime after the Light and Kohr families had been established at the foot of the mountain between Valley View and Sacramento, services were held in the barn of John Artz located in that area. These scattered classes finally united in a movement to build a house of worship in the village then known as Germanville, now Valley View. The building was erected in 1862. There is on record a deed at the county courthouse dated April 2, 1889 which recites that George W. Moyer sold fifty-six square perches of land for the sum of \$105.40 to John Schrobe, John Rickert, Paul Wolfgang, Aaron Updegrove, and Alfred Klinger, trustees of the United Brethren in Christ at Valley View. The congregation built its second house of worship in 1905.

In 1914 this second edifice was greatly improved and increased to its present large proportions. S. Ellsworth Schwalm, Charles Wil-

liamson, Paul Wolfgang, John Herb, and William Keres were its trustees at the time. The building committee consisted of S. P. Schwalm, J. E. Rickert, C. E. Snyder, I. H. Schrope, and W. H. Harner. The amount of expenditure involved was six thousand dollars. Dr. D. D. Lowery performed the dedicatory rites on November 15, 1914. Two thousand dollars were spent in 1924 for remodeling and redecorating. Further improvements were made and a Wurlitzer Pipe Organ was installed in 1934 at a total cost of \$2,463. Dr. C. A. Lynch dedicated the organ June 17. In 1939 the church was again redecorated, the main audience room was recarpeted, new floors were laid in the basement rooms, and new worship appointments were installed as memorials, the cost amounting to \$1,853. Dr. S. C. Enck preached the reopening sermon on Sunday morning, July 9, and the Rev. Warren F. Mentzer, son of the pastor, preached in the evening.

The Rev. Harry M. Mentzer, pastor of Valley View Circuit will receive special mention in Chapter X.

R. E. Morgan, Harry W. Zechman, and Warren F. Mentzer, members of the Valley View Church, were licensed to preach upon recommendation of the congregation. Dr. C. W. Schwalm, M.D., an ordained elder of the conference, is another spiritual son of this church.



Valley View Church

The dwelling across the street from the church was for a time used as a parsonage. In 1893 the house was purchased for that purpose. It was reconstructed and modern conveniences were installed in 1916.

Valley View Church has had attachment to the following circuits: Pinegrove prior to 1862; Deep Creek, 1862-63; Lykens, 1863-66; Germanville, 1866-73; Lykens, 1873-74; Germanville, 1874-79; and Valley View, 1879-46. Ministers who served the church are listed under these circuits.

Persons composing the present officary of the church are: R. F. Harner, George Scheib, Vernon Bomberger, Oscar Bixler, James E. Miller, John Bergey, C. Lanston Mentzer, Irvin Schroppe, Iva Schwalm, Mrs. Eva Legett, Eleanor Unger, Mrs. Mary Maurer, and Sula Kehres.

9. Abandoned Churches, Classes, and Appointments of Schuylkill County

Ashland There was an appointment or class in the city of Ashland which in 1867 was attached to Tamaqua, in 1885 to Valley View Circuit, and in 1889 to Montana (Aristes).

Auburn, South Manheim Township This class is mentioned but once. In 1880 it was attached to Landingville Circuit.

Buehler's The class bore the name of the man at whose house the meetings were held, that of George Buehler. It stood near Sholl's Mill, about two miles east of Orwigsburg. The Rev. David Hoffman organized the class in the year 1856 while pastor at Schuylkill Haven. It was attached to that circuit, with which it remained until 1868, when it ceased to exist.

Clark's Valley The class named after the valley which lies principally in Rush Township, Dauphin County, was attached to Tower City in 1890.

Donaldson The class met in the village whose name it bore, which lies a short distance west of Tremont. It appears on the list of classes attached to Pinegrove Circuit, 1861-66 and 1868-69. It was placed with Tremont in 1884, and in 1892 switched back to Pinegrove.

Drehersville, East Brunswick Township. The class was taken from Landingville Circuit and placed with Albany Circuit in 1882.

Dresstown The Rev. J. A. Sand organized a class in 1847 at the home of David Dress located a few miles west of Schuylkill Haven. It was shifted from Schuylkill Haven Circuit to Pinegrove Circuit in 1854, then returned to the former connection in 1870.

East Franklin The class is listed in the proceedings of Pinegrove Circuit quarterly conference over the years 1877 to 1879.

Frackville The class in the city of Frackville was attached to Tamaqua, Tremont, and Valley View Circuits, respectively, over the years 1874 to 1885. The Rev. Charles Bauer, pastor at Mt. Carmel, organized a new class in that city in 1895. A lot had been purchased and some subscriptions toward a church building had been received, but after 1896 no further activity is reported.

Freidensburg When organized, this class was known as "Riland's" and attached to Pinegrove Circuit in 1857, with which it remained until 1884; subsequently it was attached to Landingville, Cressona, Pinegrove, Pottsville, and Cressona Circuits, in the order named. Its meeting-place was first in the Riland home, and later in the Union Church at Freidensburg. It no longer appears on the roll of conference churches after 1925. A. S. Riland was for many years its sole representative at quarterly conferences.

He was a familiar figure at annual conference sessions, and for a number of years was a trustee of Lebanon Valley College.

Furnace The location of this class remains unidentified. The only mention of it is in the boundary committee's report of the year 1857 when it was placed to Pinegrove Circuit.

Hill From 1861 to 1868 Hill Class was represented at the quarterly conference sessions of Pinegrove Circuit.

Keffer's, Porter Township The class named after Keffer's Station on the Summit Branch Railroad was detached from Pinegrove Circuit in 1884 and attached to Tremont Circuit.

Klingerstown The village is in the extreme western end of the county, North Mahanoy Township. The class met in the town hall. It was attached to Pinegrove Circuit in 1847.

Llewellyn Church The United Brethren built a house of worship in Llewellyn in 1850. It was attached to Pinegrove Circuit, 1850-84; to Tremont Circuit, 1884-90; to Cressona Circuit, 1890-92; and to Pinegrove, from 1892 until it went out of existence. At various periods it was a flourishing organization. Annual conference in 1904 authorized a special board of trustees to sell the property. John Shultz, Michael Bernhart, Benjamin Bernhart, John Hoffman, Charles Heisler, Thomas Garland, and Isaac Dando were some of the laymen who took an active part in the official work of the church over the period 1861 to 1881.

Thomas Garland was born in Llewellyn September 23, 1847, the son of Irish immigrants. He left public school at the age of thirteen to work in the coal mines. At the age of sixteen he enrolled in Co. F. 48th Reg. Pa. Vol., served in the war of the Rebellion, was wounded, then hospitalized for about five months. Upon being mustered out he again worked in the mines. He served as Sunday School superintendent at Llewellyn, was recommended for quarterly conference license, received annual license in 1871, and was ordained in the year 1876. The Reverend Garland was in the active ministry from 1872 to 1921, serving conference appointments with great acceptability.

Newtown Newtown and Swatara Valley Classes were probably one and the same. They are listed on the proceedings of Pinegrove Circuit from 1882 to 1889.

Mahanoy The Mahanoy City class was attached to Tamaqua Circuit in 1867. It receives mention but once.

Middleport, Blythe Township A class at Middleport was a part of Tamaqua Circuit in 1882.

Orwin Church A Class was organized at Johnstown, now Orwin, in about the year 1890. A lot costing one hundred dollars was secured for the erection of a church in 1892. Samuel Uhler, Nathan Hatz, John Goodman, Andrew Hand, and Alfred Hand were the trustees. A frame church was erected in 1892.

Paradise A class mentioned by this name was connected with Pinegrove Circuit in 1882.

Pottsville First mentioned in the year 1875, this class was attached to a newly created circuit by the same name. During the summer of 1895 the Rev. C. S. Miller, pastor of Schuylkill Haven, rented a church property centrally located in the city and succeeded in organizing a new class. Prospects for a successful missionary enterprise seemed favorable. Pottsville Circuit was a second time constituted. In each case, however, the class and circuit continued but one year.

Reynolds Church The church is located on the east bank of the Little Schuylkill River between New Ringgold and Tamaqua. A class was organized at a woods meeting under the ministry of John M. Leshner, then pastor of Landingville Circuit, in the year 1881. Israel Hunter sold a half acre of ground, June 5, 1883, to the trustees for Reynolds Church, who were: Gottlieb Walters, Valentine Auley, Elias Moyer, George Wittich Sr., and Frederick Walters. The congregation was regularly served by our

ministers from 1881 to about 1901, and was connected with the following circuits throughout that period: Landingville, Tamaqua, Cressona, Bern, and Sinking Spring. A class of The Evangelical Church is now worshipping in the building and negotiations are under way to transfer the property to it.

Gottlieb Walters above mentioned was the father of the Rev. John M. Walters who was born at Reynolds. He joined this church and was licensed from this class. During the forty-six years of his active ministry he served fourteen appointments in the conference. He was graduated with the 1893 class of Union Biblical Seminary. He died March 27, 1945, while sustaining the status of a retired elder. The Rev. LeRoy R. Walters is a son of the Rev. John M. and Emma Katherine Hauser Walters.

Tamaqua Church The Rev. Daniel M. Kauffman opened a preaching appointment in Tamaqua in the year 1863. A class was organized and attached to Schuylkill Haven Circuit in 1865. The congregation came into possession of a lot fronting forty feet on Hunter Street and extending along Penn Street a distance of one hundred and fifteen feet. It was purchased by Christian Walter, Christian Bachman, and Reuben Kieshner, trustees for the class. The deed is dated July 23, 1880, and the purchase price was \$200. Repairs were made in 1885 but there was a standing debt of \$1,000 which, as reported by the presiding elder, greatly hindered the work. The difficulty of debt and the refusal to accept the preacher appointed in 1894 issued in annual conference recommending that the property be sold, the creditors paid, and the balance of credit be turned over to the Conference Church Erection Society. Following this action, the congregation entreated conference authorities not to sell the church. J. H. Gilbert of the Mt. Carmel quarterly conference was appointed. He was successful in paying interest that was standing four years. But his work was not appreciated, difficulties arose, and his services were no longer accepted. During the conference year 1896-97, the Tamaqua church was sold.

Umbenhauer's Zion Church Zion's Class was a part of the Pinegrove charge from 1870 to 1881 and probably later. The class first met in Umbenhauer's Schoolhouse. Later a church building is mentioned. The men appointed as trustees were: William H. Uhler, William Marshall, Edward Miller, Samuel Umbenhauer, A. Umbenhauer, M. Brenner, and Jacob Huber. A. Zimmerman, C. Shutt, L. Dippinger, Joseph Betz, J. Rump, Simon Shucker, and William H. Uhler were class leaders or stewards, or both.

West Penn West Penn Post Office was located in about the center of the township bearing the same name. A class bearing the same name was, in 1880, attached to Landingville Circuit. The United Brethren built a church during the conference year 1882-83 on a lot which was bought by Philip Daubenspeck, Andrew Klechner, George Hill, William Osenbach, and William L. Daubenspeck, trustees. The appointment was attached to Tamaqua Circuit in 1885. When the congregation ceased to function, or when the property was sold, conference proceedings do not show.

Chapter IX

THE CHURCHES OF BERKS, CHESTER, MONTGOMERY, LEHIGH, NORTHAMPTON, BUCKS, PHILADELPHIA COUNTIES; NEW JERSEY; AND BEYOND THE PRESENT CONFERENCE BOUNDARY

1. The Circuits of Berks County

The preaching appointments in Berks County were officially grouped under Schuylkill Mission in the year 1843. Christian Peffley was appointed and an appropriation of fifty dollars was made from the funds of the Missionary Society to supplement his income. The next year this charge became Berks County Circuit, and Brother Peffley was reappointed. It is therefore evident that the Mission of 1843 did not take its name from Schuylkill County but from that region of Berk's County which bordered on the Schuylkill River.

Christian Newcomer and George Adam Geeting held a "Great Meeting" in the vicinity of Sinking Spring as early as 1796. Incidentally, this is the first meeting of its kind recorded in Newcomer's Journal. He mentions other preaching appointments located east and west of the Schuylkill. Though there are no records to show expansion of our denomination in Berks County following the notations by Newcomer, it can be taken as a matter of course that the local and itinerant preachers of Lebanon and Lancaster Circuits, at an early date, extended their appointments into the southern and western areas of the county. The place-names of circuits which follow and the establishing of a church in Reading indicate the spread of the work.

The circuits of Berks County with the periods of their existence, in the order of their formation, are as follows: Schuylkill Mission, 1843-44; Berks County Circuit (1), 1844-55; Amity Circuit (1), 1854-61; Sinking Spring Circuit (1), 1855-59; Sinking Spring Circuit (2), 1860-69; Amity Circuit (2), 1862-64; Amity Circuit (3), 1868-70; Monocacy Circuit (1), 1870-80; Sinking Spring Circuit (3), 1871-73; Berks County Circuit (2), 1880-84; Amity Circuit (4), Oct. 1881-82; Monocacy Circuit (2), 1881-82; Albany Circuit, 1882-83; Sinking Spring Circuit (4), 1883-94; Bern Circuit (1), 1894-1901; Bern Circuit (2), 1904-25.

The list of circuits, years of continuance, ministers appointed, and terms of service, are as follows:

Albany Circuit, 1882-83; Isaac Goodling and R. S. Arndt, 1882-83. This circuit named after Albany Township, Berks County, was largely composed of appointments in Schuylkill County.

Amity Circuit (1), 1854-61: David Hoffman, 1854-55; Simon Zimmerman, 1855-56; Eusebius Hershey, 1856-57; Joseph Young Jr.,

1857-58; J. B. Daugherty, 1858-59; Israel Carpenter, 1859-60; and Lewis Peters, 1860-61.

Amity Circuit (2), 1862-64: Henry Hilbish, 1862-64.

Amity Circuit (3), 1868-70: C. T. Poulton, 1868-70.

Amity Circuit (4), Oct. 1881-82: J. H. Miller, Oct. 1881-82.

Berks County Circuit (1), 1844-55: Christian Peffley, 1844-45; Samuel Seiders, 1845-46; Simon Noll, 1846-47; Solomon Von Nieda, Christian Siechrist, 1848-49; Christian Siechrist, George Smith, 1849-50; Henry Staub, Henry Schropp, 1850-51; David Gingrich Jr., 1851-52; H. W. Landis, 1852-53; Conrad Geist, Christian Kauffman, 1853-54; Conrad Geist, Rudolph Light, 1854-55.

Berks County Circuit (2), 1880-84: J. H. Lowery, 1880-81; J. H. Unger, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881; Lewis Fleisher, Oct. 1881-82; J. D. Killian, D. S. Longenecker, 1882-83; and B. B. Weidman, 1883-84.

Bern Circuit (1), 1894-1901: F. J. Butterwick, 1894-98; and S. S. Daugherty, 1898-1901.

Bern Circuit (2), 1904-25: O. G. Romig, 1904-05; J. R. Blecher, 1905-07; Amos Lehman, 1907-08; H. M. Trautman, 1908-10; W. E. Shoop, 1910-13; Ira W. Funk, 1913-14; R. S. Arndt, 1914-20; A. D. J. Shoemaker, 1920-21; and C. C. Hollingsworth, 1921-25.

Monocacy Circuit (1), 1870-80: C. T. Poulton, 1870-71; A. H. Kauffman, 1871-74; J. R. Reitzel, 1874-76; G. D. Gross, 1876-78; and John F. Mower, 1878-80.

Monocacy Circuit (2), 1881-82: J. D. Killian, John F. Mower, 1881-82.

Schuylkill Mission, 1843-44: Christian Peffley, 1843-44.

Sinking Spring Circuit (1), 1855-59: Rudolph Light, 1855-56; Wesley Dietrich, John Stamm, 1856-57; H. W. Landis, 1857-58; Christian Peffley, J. B. Daugherty, David Moyer, 1858-59.

Sinking Spring Circuit (2), 1860-69: Simon Noll, 1860-62; Lewis Fleisher, 1862-64; Jacob Runk, G. W. Hoffman, 1864-65; John Binkley, 1865-66; John Moyer, 1866-67; W. H. Woland, George Kauffman, Henry Dissinger, 1867-68; G. W. Hoffman, Henry Dissinger, W. S. Dissinger, 1868-69.

Sinking Spring Circuit (3), 1871-73: James Shoop, 1871-73.

Sinking Spring Circuit (4), 1883-94: D. S. Longenecker, 1883-85; L. W. Craumer, 1885-86; J. R. Blecher, 1886-89; I. B. Koons, 1889-92; and William Lamey, 1892-94.

2. The Churches of Berks County

Bern, Salem Church

Benjamin Altenderfer headed an evangelistic movement in Center and Upper Bern Townships which culminated in the organization of

a United Brethren Class. Though, like the founders of our denomination he was a member of an established Church, yet he sought the assurance of forgiveness of sins and the experience of vital faith. William Blatt, a neighbor, and John Becker, a personal friend, were also convinced of the necessity of conversion. They began holding prayer meetings in homes. George K. Haag encouraged the work by holding meetings in his home where he and his wife and Benjamin Wert and his wife were soon afterward converted.

The meetings which had their origin in Center Township soon spread to Upper Bern Township and were held there in the homes of John Klein, Jacob Fisher and Benjamin Seaman. The Lord visited these people with a gracious revival in the winter of 1859-60. A protracted meeting of six weeks duration was held in 1860 in the home of Benjamin Altenderfer. The movement began in 1848 and continued until about 1870 without pastoral leadership and without a church house. Being now of a considerable number, one of them journeyed to Reading to invite the Revs. Job Light and Lewis Peters, then pastors of Reading Zion and Reading Otterbein Churches respectively, to visit them. Reverend Light responded and preached in the home of Jacob Fisher. Sometime thereafter James H. Unger in charge of Tamaqua Circuit, within whose parish-area Upper Bern fell, organized a class in March 1871, at the home of George A. Loose.

At a quarterly held April 15, 1871 at Landingville Church, Jacob Fisher, Benjamin Seaman, and Benjamin Wert were appointed trustees to erect a church building. Work was begun and the cornerstone was laid, May 28 of the same year. A rectangular brick house of worship, with a gallery, was built on the ground of John A. Loose. In course of time it became unsafe for use and was torn down to the foundation walls, and a new structure also of brick was erected thereon, with the addition of an annex for Sunday School use. The cornerstone was laid June 3, 1906, Dr. I. H. Albright, the Rev. J. R. Blecher, pastor, and the Rev. A. S. Beckley taking part in the services. The building, costing \$6,000, was dedicated during the conference year 1906-07. Its location is about a mile south of Highway Route 22 at a point four miles east of Shartlesville on an elevation of ground "beautiful for situation."

When the building was erected its members memorialized certain of the dead and the living by placing their names on artglass windows. Those thus honored were: Jacob Fisher and wife Elizabeth Klein Fisher, Benjamin Seaman and wife Elizabeth, John A. Loose, John, Daniel, and Isaac Althouse, Franklin J. Miller, Daniel Dietrich, Lizzie Zimmerman, Matilda Spatz, Nora R. Hamm, and Warren Naftzinger.

George A. Loose, at whose home the class had been organized, standing a few rods west of the church, was a minister of East Pennsylvania annual conference. He received license in 1873, was ordained in 1876, and served Florin, Jacksonville, and Hummelstown Circuits. John K. Fisher, son of Jacob and Rebecca Fisher was graduated from Lebanon Valley College with the class of 1872—the

third class to be graduated from said institution. He with the Rev. J. Wesley Etter were the first ministerial students to graduate from Lebanon Valley. They also were the first members of the conference to take a full theological course. They were ordained in 1876 after having been graduated from Drew Theological Seminary. The Reverend Fisher subsequently served several of our strongest churches.

Valentine Fisher, brother of the Rev. John K., was superintendent of the Sunday School for a period of twenty-seven years. Leroy Siegfried, Lloyd Y. Christ, Wilmer J. Althouse, J. Brooke Althouse, and Emerson Wert are church trustees. They also serve the Church and Sunday School in other official capacities, and with them are associated: Mrs. George S. Miller, Mrs. William Oswald, Mrs. Wilmer J. Althouse, Mrs. J. Brooke Althouse, and Anna Artz. Mrs. Warren F. Naftzinger has the unique distinction of having served as pianist for fifty-two years.

Salem Church has been affiliated with the following circuits: Tamaqua, 1871-73; Hamburg Mission, 1873-74; Landingville, 1874-80; Berks County, 1880-82; Landingville, 1882-83; Sinking Spring, 1883-94; Bern, 1894-1901; Sinking Spring, 1901-04; Bern, 1904-25; and Shoemakersville, 1925-46.



Bern Church



Birdsboro Church

Birdsboro, Grace Church

Birdsboro appointment was attached to Springfield (Elverson) Circuit in the year 1882, but there was no organized class until 1885. Services by the group which later formed the class were first held in the Hampton Schoolhouse situated about a mile south of Birdsboro in the beautiful Haycreek Valley. The Rev. Martin P. Doyle, pastor of Reading Otterbein Church organized a class consisting of the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Millard, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Wert, Mr. and Mrs. David McChalicher, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Grubb, Emanuel Grubb, Levi,

Mary, and Carrie McChalicher, David Painter, and Lavina Millard.

Approximately sixty new members came into church fellowship during the first year of organized work as a result of a great revival. This new congregation built a house of worship in Birdsboro at the corner of Haycreek Road and Hopewell Street during the conference year 1886-87. Frederick H. Millard, Benjamin Grubb, Emanuel Grubb, David McChalicher, and Levi McChalicher composed the first trustee board. One of their number, Benjamin Grubb, sold the lot for the proposed building for the sum of \$125. These five brethren served as the building committee, and did much of the manual labor entailed in the construction. Bishop Jonathan Weaver dedicated the edifice on the Sunday following Pentecost in the year 1887.

The house of worship built of stone was improved from time to time. In 1907 a brick annex was added for the use of the Children's Division of the Sunday School. Three years later the interior was redecorated and new pews and other furniture placed, all at a cost of \$532. The question of relocating came up in 1924. After careful consideration and investigation of all possibilities, the matter was dropped. A fund of five hundred and fifty dollars had been gathered for the project. At this time the parsonage, being no longer used by the pastor on the charge, was sold for the sum of \$1,450. The proceeds of the sale plus the building fund amount were used to liquidate a mortgage of nine hundred dollars, and the balance applied to expense incurred in redecorating the interior and stuccoing the exterior. Further improvements, including the placing of a new floor, were made in 1942.

Lay people who headed the work of the congregation in 1909 were: Frederick H. Millard, Samuel H. Wert, Vernon D. Grubb, Elmer E. Keinard, William Painter, D. Hunter Watts, Harvey Kulp, Carl Pearson, Walter Moyer, and Mrs. Renie Kulp. Some of these workers continue in active service to the present. New names on the official roster of more recent date are: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lykens, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brady, Mrs. James Caleo, Mrs. Charles Patton, Mrs. Mahlon Snyder, Mrs. Ethel McCord Whitman, Mrs. Leroy Yohn, and Mrs. Merl Bartel. Mr. William Painter has served as church trustee for fifty-five years. Prof. J. A. Grier, a local minister of the congregation, served the Birdsboro charge three consecutive years as its minister. During his ministry the church had one evangelistic effort which resulted in more than sixty conversions. He has supplied this church and others affiliated with it at other periods.

Birdsboro Charge existed over three different periods. Ministers serving it were: P. H. Garret, Feb. 1889-Oct. 1889; J. A. Grier, 1894-97; J. Francis Smith, 1907-08; G. M. Richter, 1908-09; A. L. Haeseler, 1909-11; T. J. Leibold, 1911-12; H. M. Trautman, 1912-13; C. Y. Ulrich, 1913-16; E. F. Castetter, 1916-17; P. B. Kurtz, 1917-18; M. L. Swanger, J. C. H. Light, 1918-19; J. C. H. Light, 1919-25; Irwin Wise, 1925-27;

Paul Hunter, 1927-28; Ralph Wolfe, 1928-30; G. Jay Umberger, 1930-31.

Other ministers who served this church were those appointed to the following charges and circuits, with which the church has been affiliated: Otterbein Church, Reading, 1885-88; Springfield Circuit, 1888-Feb. 1889; and Oct. 1889-94; and 1897-1900; Elverson Charge, 1900-07; and Pottstown-Birdsboro Charge, 1931-46.



Lincoln Park Church

Lincoln Park Community Church

Under the sponsorship of lay members of Reading Zion Church living in the Lincoln Park Community, which is located in Spring Township, between Shillington and Sinking Spring, a Sunday School was organized in 1937. Both Zion Church and annual conference leaders looked forward to the time when a church organization might be formed in this rapidly developing residential area.

Definite steps toward this accomplishment were taken in 1944. During the summer the Rev. C. R. Swartz made a house-to-house survey of the entire community. The annual session of conference immediately following authorized the opening of a mission if, upon further investigation and survey, that seemed advisable. Dr. S. C. Enck who, while active conference superintendent was well acquainted with the possibilities of a new organization and was very enthusiastic for it, was selected to give some time to this field during the summer of 1945. His work was eminently successful.

On September 16, 1945 Drs. Enck and Young conducted an organization meeting in the schoolhouse where the Sunday School held its sessions during the preceding eight years. Twenty-three charter members were enrolled. It was decided to name the church "The Lincoln Park Community Church." Dr. Young installed the following officers: trustees, Joseph H. Funk, L. Frank Wagner, Mervin Uhler, Luke Youndt, Gordon Long, and William Angstadt; church treasurer, Carl S. Madeira; financial secretary, Calvin Oliver; Sunday School superintendent, Joseph H. Funk; secretary of the official board, Carl S. Madeira; and president of the Ladies' Aid, Mrs. Joseph H. Funk. Other charter members were: Mrs. Carl S. Madeira, Mrs. Mabel Noll, Mrs. L. Frank Wagner, Mrs. Irene Lutz, Mrs. Marguerite Moyer, Mrs. Mervin Uhler, Mrs. Fern F. Super, Mrs. Luke Youndt, Mrs. William Angstadt, Mrs. Gordon Long, Mrs. Calvin Oliver, Mrs. Amelia Wooten, Mrs. Dorothy Mohler, and Mrs. Lulu Helen De Temple.

At the following annual conference session, September 1945, the class was attached temporarily to Reading Zion Church. The Rev. Mark J. Hostetter was appointed to this joint pastorate. Two lots, excellently located, costing \$4,629.26 were purchased in the summer and fall of 1945. The first worship service by the new class was held in the schoolhouse January 27, 1946. Plans have been made to erect a brick structure of modified American Colonial design, in the main seventy by thirty-six feet in dimensions, to cost \$85,000. East Pennsylvania Conference made an initial grant of \$10,000. The members of the class and interested citizens of the community are giving generous support to the new project.

Mt. Aetna, Trinity Church

The Mt. Aetna Church was founded by the Zeller family, of whom Bishop Andrew was a member. George Zeller, father of Bishop Andrew had a family of six sons and five daughters. The Zeller homestead is located within a mile north of Mt. Aetna, on a small branch of the Little Swatara Creek. Henry Zeller, father of George and grandfather of Bishop Andrew was an elder in the Tulpehocken Reformed Church as early as 1740. He died in 1756, just two years before Otterbein began his ministry in the Tulpehocken region. The spiritual work of Otterbein in this area was revived about forty years later by the preaching of Geeting, Newcomer, Kreider, Boehm, and others, in their holding of "Great Meetings" at the Zeller homes.

Though another forty years passed before a house of worship was erected by the United Brethren in this area, one can be certain that the streams of influence, culminating in the organization of a class and the erection of a church building, can be traced to their spiritual source in the sainted Otterbein.

On a painted wooden panel in the east gable of the Mt. Aetna Church is this wording: "Trinity Church of the U. B. in Christ—

**Mt. Aetna Church**

Committee—D. & G. Zeller.” Daniel Zeller, the elder of the two men named here, born in 1789, was probably a nephew of Bishop Andrew. The other of the names appearing on the panel is that of George Zeller, born 1818. In the deed of transfer, dated March 22, 1849, of the Mt. Aetna Church lot, George Zeller and wife Mary are the grantors; and Daniel Zeller, Jacob Wagner, and David Hoffman, “Trustees of the Congregation or Religious Society of the said township (Tulpehocken) called United Brethren in Christ,” are the grantees.

The church lot identified in said deed was lot number 17 on the town plan and had a frontage of 66 feet on Lancaster Street, and a depth westerly of 198 feet. Lot number 16, adjoining lot number 17 on the north, was sold by the administrators of George Zeller, deceased, May 15, 1891 to the trustees of the church who then were, Jared D. Klopp, C. P. Heffelfinger, and John Klopp. The area to the rear of the church of the original lot, and the later acquired lot are used as a cemetery. In it the Zeller, Wagner, Klopp, Boyer, Keller, Daub, Dundore and Schell families, whose praises once filled the Lord's house, now sleep the sleep of the blessed.

A small frame church was erected in the year 1848. The quarterly conference of the Lebanon Salem charge met in the newly erected building at Mt. Aetna on February 12, 1849, at which time the following accounting of the building was submitted: Cost of building, \$700.27½; paid on same, \$490.80; leaving a debt of \$209.47½, which amount the trustees were instructed to collect as soon as possible.

Like many other villages and rural churches, the Mt. Aetna church, by removals of its membership to more densely populated communities, and for other reasons, some justifiable, and others not so, has suffered severe handicaps. A brief historic note states that there were fifty members in the year 1885. At the present its membership numbers fourteen. Its record is to be judged, not by its present weakness, but rather by the life that flowed out from it in its better years. The Reverend S. T. Dundore was licensed by this class in 1916. Through the continued care of local people, and others living at a distance who still hold this place of worship in high esteem, the building today presents a neat appearance.

The class at the time when the church building was erected was attached to Lebanon Salem. In 1849 it was made a part of Myers-

town Circuit, and remained so until 1898 when, for one year, it was constituted a charge and the Rev. D. E. Long was appointed. Since then it has been attached as follows: to Jonestown Circuit, 1899; to Iona Circuit, 1903; to Lickdale, 1905; under Lebanon Salem quarterly, 1906; to Lebanon Circuit, 1909; to Schaefferstown, 1915; to Myers-town, 1917; to Rocherty, 1923; under Lebanon Salem quarterly, 1924; to Rocherty, 1927, and from 1935 to 1946 under Lebanon Bethany quarterly.

Reading, Salem Church

Annual Conference of the year 1885 took the initiative to promote a new mission in Reading. The preliminary work for the project was left in the hands of Zion Church and its pastor Samuel Etter Jr. Frank Shimmer, Joseph Levan, Joel Ganser, members of Zion Church were elected the first trustees. They purchased a lot for a proposed chapel, fronting forty feet on Spring Street and extending in depth one hundred feet on North Tenth Street, for the sum of \$700. A quarterly held in Zion Church July 3, 1886 approved the action. At this quarterly, brothers Levan and Ganser resigned from the trustee board and Adam Bower and Cornelius Mengel were elected to fill the vacancies.

Shortly after holding of the quarterly the first service was held at the rear of the Presbyterian Church on North Ninth Street beyond Amity. Then for a short time meetings were held in a tent pitched on the commons between Ninth and Tenth Streets, some distance north of Spring.

In September 1886 the Rev. Etter was assigned to give full time to the new enterprise, annual conference supporting it by an appropriation of \$450. On the 29th the presiding elder organized a new class consisting of the Rev. Etter and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shimmer, and Adam Bower. At this meeting which was held in Mr. Shimmer's storeroom on the corner of Spring and North Eighth Streets, it was decided to hold services there regularly. A frame church building, thirty-five by fifty feet in dimensions was constructed on the south end of the lot, fronting on North Tenth Street, at a cost of \$1,100. The cornerstone was laid May 26, 1887 and the completed building was dedicated June 19th following, by James Shoop, presiding elder of the district, assisted by the pastor A. M. Blecher. The Rev. Shoop preached at both afternoon and evening services, and following the evening sermon conducted the Lord's Supper.

Annual Conference continued to give financial support. The Rev. Etter remained three years, reporting at the close of his pastorate a church membership of thirty-nine, and a Sunday School of 120 pupils and twenty-two teachers.

Additional ground adjoining the church lot was purchased on April 1, 1891. This gave the church lot forty-three additional feet on Spring Street, making it a rectangle of 100 feet on North Tenth



Reading Salem Church

Street and eighty-three feet deep on Spring Street. The corner lot, extending sixty feet on North Tenth Street and eighty-three on Spring was sold in 1892, leaving to the church but forty feet on North Tenth and extending eighty-three feet along a ten foot alley. "Blunders like this will sometimes be made in church enterprises as well as in other undertakings."

On October 1893 the Rev. D. S. Longenecker became pastor of Salem Church. The editors of the "Conference Souvenir" for 1906 say that the Rev. Longenecker found only eleven names on the church record and a notice on the church door, "For Sale." He refused to preach in the church until the notice had been removed. He reorganized the membership, reinstated many former members, and repaired and enlarged the chapel. At the end of his four year pastorate he reported a membership of 196. The first report of a Young People's Society appears in the conference proceedings of 1894. It then had fifty-four members.

The church continued to grow in members and influence under the pastorate of the Rev. Amos Lehman, who took charge of the work in October 1897. After serving the congregation six years, he reported 311 members; a Sunday School enrollment of 329; a Senior Young People's Society of 134 members, and a Junior Society of

81 members. In 1901 the three-story brick dwelling adjoining the church property on the north was bought for \$2,300, for use as a parsonage.

The church building was partially destroyed by fire on the evening of April 28, 1904. Soon thereafter arrangements were made to build a new house of worship. The present substantial brick structure was erected at a cost of \$12,222.25. It was dedicated January 8, 1905 by Bishop Job S. Mills. This was accomplished under the ministry of the Rev. William Wesley Fridinger. He was born in Carroll County, Maryland, July 18, 1862, and was converted at the age of fourteen. In 1893 he was admitted to East Pennsylvania Annual Conference membership. Fishburn Circuit, Schaefferstown Circuit, Reading Salem, Allentown Sixth Street Church, Denver Church, and Jonestown Circuit were the charges he served. At the session of 1916 he was assigned to New Holland charge. During the night of the first Sunday he preached on his new charge, he became very ill and suddenly passed on. The ministerial services of his two sons, Mertis V. and Paul E. are recorded in scattered pages of this volume. A third son, Willis H., has been delegate to annual conference sessions, and served as alternate delegate to the uniting conference of 1946.

Salem congregation bought the dwelling at No. 1014 North Tenth Street in 1923 at a cost of \$6,250, for use as a parsonage. It is a three-story brick building, well-adapted for a pastor's residence. The former parsonage was converted into apartments and class rooms in 1926. At the same time considerable improvements were made and new equipment was purchased. The church basement was enlarged and furnished, the worship room was refrescoed, and a new heating plant and a new three-manual Moller pipe organ were installed, at a total cost of \$25,000. Reopening services were held and the organ dedicated on November 14, 1926. This advance was made under the leadership of the Rev. Clifford A. Funk, whose nine-year pastorate exceeds in length of time that of any other pastor of Salem Church.

The trustee board presently consists of Arthur L. Schott, J. Pierce Gates, Edward Coldren, Willis Fridinger, and Howard Schach. Other lay people active in the organizations of the church are: Paul Schott, B. S. Longenecker, Wilbert Saule, Mrs. Ralph H. Wolfe, Mrs. Jennie McLaughlin, Mrs. Mary Posey, Mrs. Minnie Hilton, Mrs. Clara Schernach, Mrs. Harry Fizz, Mrs. Erma Weinhold, Miss Gladys Gates, and June Gerhart. Miss Sallie Hartranft for many years was the superintendent of the children's department. A sainted name of Salem Church is that of Frank J. Leibold who was a trustee and class leader and served as Sunday School superintendent for twenty-five years.

The list of ministers appointed is as follows: Samuel Etter Jr., 1886-89; Jacob H. Mark, 1889-90; Clint S. Miller, 1890-91; L. W. Craumer, 1891-93; D. S. Longenecker, 1893-97; Amos Lehman, 1897-1903;

W. W. Fridinger, 1903-08; S. B. Wengert, 1908-12; D. D. Buddinger, 1912-20; C. A. Mutch, 1920-25; C. A. Funk, 1925-34; Cornwell Beamesderfer, 1934-37; C. W. Hendrickson, 1937-43; and Ralph H. Wolfe, 1943-46.

Reading, Trinity Church

Presiding elder H. B. Dohner of the Lancaster District, East Pennsylvania Conference, reported to the 1890 session that a congregation of thirty-six persons known as "The Ancient Church of God" expressed a desire of becoming identified with the Reading Otterbein Church, that they cheerfully consented to submit to the disciplinary requirements of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; and in consequence thereof they are now recognized as the Boehm congregation. This group had its origin with a few people who in 1884 met for their first religious service under the leadership of Mr. Harry Lengle at his home, 123 River Street. Subsequent meetings were held in various other quarters.

The first appointee by conference authorities was G. H. Knox who served as their spiritual leader for the year 1890-91. The Rev. H. V. Mohn, an ordained elder of the conference, was appointed in October 1891. He held pastoral relations with this congregation until 1897. During his first year the work was under the supervision of the Otterbein Church. The elder, in 1892, expressed the opinion that a church building was indispensable to the congregation's progress. Conference authorized a special agent to collect at least \$2,000 for the project. On October 27, 1892, the Rev. Mohn bought a parcel of ground, forty-nine and one-half feet by 110 feet, on the southeast corner of Buttonwood and McKnight Streets for the sum of \$1,000. Building operations were begun; and the cornerstone laid July 1, 1894 by Bishop E. B. Kephart.

It was in the fall of 1894 that the appointment was left open to be supplied, but the Rev. Mohn continued to serve by arrangement with the congregation. Conference of the year 1895 questioned the legality of receiving his report. Nevertheless it was entered upon the journal. The congregation moved into the partly constructed house of worship in April 1895. In the fall of that year East Pennsylvania Conference surrendered control of the Boehm Church to East German Conference. It appointed the Rev. Mohn.

At the close of the year the presiding elder reported that construction costs had reached the amount of \$7,200, of which \$2,676.79 had been paid. The Conference Church Extension Society in 1896 agreed to pay \$700 to support the work provided the title proved to be satisfactory. Upon investigation the said Society was not satisfied with the vesting of title and the provisional support was withheld.

By letter dated May 4, 1897, the Rev. Mohn resigned. The presiding elder on coming to the church building June 29 to hold a quarterly conference was refused entrance. He then went to the

home of J. E. Rauch to hold the meeting. Later a minister was appointed to serve the congregation worshipping in the incomplete structure, but the doors were closed against him. On the 14th of July the elder met with twenty-six loyal members in a hall, enrolled them in a class, and appointed I. E. Runk, then a student at Lebanon Valley College. Upon resignation, or shortly thereafter, the Rev. Mohn organized an independent congregation. East Pennsylvania Conference in 1899 ordered his name erased from its roll of ministers.



Reading Trinity Church

The young people of the conference area having expressed a desire to support mission work in Reading, annual conference of 1898 accepted the offer and placed the reorganized congregation on its list of charges as "The Young People's Christian Union Church." The Rev. W. H. Uhler, who was presiding elder when the congregation came under the control of the East German Conference and who had faith that the project would sometime plan out successfully, was appointed. The conference board of Church Extension from this time forward to 1908 exercised trusteeship, and from time to time voted generous aid.

Under this new leadership the property was purchased from the Rev. Mohn for the sum of \$7,525.72. On April 28, 1899 the worshippers moved back to the church building. It was subsequently completed, and dedicated in the month of June 1900 under the ministry of the Rev. C. A. Mutch. The union of the English and the German conferences in 1901 brought the church under the supervision of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society of the new conference.

This Society relinquished its official relation in 1908. James B. Baker, Robert B. Kern, I. N. Pickle, R. H. Reist, and Milton Hummel constituted the new trustee board of the Reading Memorial Church with full authority to act for said church. This congregation has not been wanting for names by which it was designated: Boehm, West Reading Mission, Young People's Christian Union, Fourth, and Memorial—all appear on official conference records.

The last name given it is Reading Trinity Church. This was given by annual conference when in 1912 it ordered that Otterbein Church and Memorial Church unite. After the consummation of the union, the matter of relocating came under consideration. There were various proposals whose details need not be recited. All proposals were dropped and finally in 1919 the lot on the corner of North Fifth and Spring Streets, which had been bought by the Otterbein Church trustees, was sold for the sum of \$10,000. The trustees who had a part in the transaction were: Robert B. Kern, W. D. B. Spatz, Walter C. Lessly, William E. Taylor, J. J. Schoffstall, Harry A. Johnson, and Elmer C. Smith. From these receipts it was possible for Trinity Church to buy a dwelling for use as a parsonage. The house bought is located at 342 North Second Street; its purchase price was \$4,500.

Except for redecorating of walls of both chapel and sanctuary, there were no extensive improvements until 1926. During the ministry of the Rev. C. E. Procasco the sum of \$10,000 was expended on new installations and renovations. The Rev. Byron Sheetz was appointed to Reading Trinity on October 1, 1931. His fifteen years of diligent and constructive work has been a boon to the people who have given him their united and loyal support. On June 19, 1941 a program of major improvements was launched. Some of the items in this program were: redecorating of the interior, placing new art

glass windows, releading old ones, placing storm windows, changes in arrangement and construction of the chancel, new pulpit furniture and worship appointments, renovating all old furniture, installing new lights, laying of a beautiful maroon carpet of high quality over the entire floor, repainting and repairs of the exterior. When the work was completed both interior and exterior had the appearance of a new house of worship. The cost involved, amounting in round figures to \$10,000, was paid for in a period of two years.

William E. Taylor was president of the trustee board for many years. The present board consists of: Edward Riegel, Robert Kern, Walter C. Lessly, William Stover, Howard DeHart, William Rhoads, and Raymond Williams Sr. The three main officers of the Sunday School organizations are: Mark Taylor, George Warr, and Edward Riegel. The general superintendent is also the adult superintendent, and the pastor, Rev. Sheetz, heads the Young People's Department, and Beulah DeHart the Children's Division. Raymond Williams, Sr. heads the Adult Christian Endeavor Society, and Ronald Cocroft the Intermediates and the Juniors. Officers of the Women's Missionary Society are: Mrs. Joseph Fleming, Mrs. Byron Sheetz, Mrs. William Taylor, and Mrs. Myrl Fillman.

Ministers who served, with years of service of each are: G. H. Knox, 1890-91; H. V. Mohn, 1891-95; H. V. Mohn, I. E. Runk, 1895-96; R. R. Butterwick, 1896-97; W. H. Uhler, 1897-99; C. A. Mutch, 1899-1901; H. B. Dohner, 1901-03; U. S. G. Renn, 1903-07; M. H. Jones, 1907-11; J. B. Funk, 1911-12; I. N. Seldomridge, 1912-13; S. S. Daugherty, W. E. Daugherty, 1913-14; W. E. Daugherty, 1914-17; H. F. Boeshore, 1917-19; M. H. Jones, 1919-26; C. E. Procaso, 1926-29; Ira D. Lowery, 1929-31; and Byron Sheetz, 1931-46.

Reading, Zion Church

The regularly appointed ministers to Berks County Circuit extended their ministry to include the city of Reading. Christian Pefley was so appointed in 1844, Samuel Seiders in 1845, Simon Noll in 1846, and Solomon VonNieda and Christian Siechrist in 1848. It was in 1847, during the Rev. Noll's ministry, that the first class in Reading was organized. Instrumental in its organizing were Solomon VonNieda of Adamstown and Solomon Weidman of Sinking Spring. The class was composed of the following six charter members: James and Elizabeth Stahr, John and Sarah Kutz, Henry and Mary Bitner. Mr. Weidman was in possession of a lot—the site of the present church—fronting forty feet on South Ninth Street and extending in depth one hundred feet, having on its front two houses. The class erected a small frame chapel 20 x 30 feet, costing about \$600, on the rear of said lot.

Some discouraging circumstances faced by this infant class are recited, as follows: On one occasion Mr. VonNieda had determined to drop the appointment, stating that he thought it was not worthwhile to preach to empty pews. Mr. Stahr then suggested that he arrange the half-dozen members who



Reading Zion Church

attended regularly into a semi-circle and take God in the midst. In addition to fears within the early life of this church, there were bitter foes without. Some of the other churches and pastors of Reading strenuously opposed the mission, and held it in derision. An unfriendly pastor from whose church a number of members had gone to the "meetinghouse to get religion" and who afterward united with it, gave expression of his feelings on this wise: "Whenever we establish a good work anywhere, the devil has these United Brethren around to spoil it."¹

The annual conference proceedings of February 16, 1849 state: "That the city of Reading be a mission charge, and be supplied with a missionary, if we have a preacher fitted (for the charge); if not, it shall remain on Berks County Circuit." The Rev. Simon Noll was appointed. He gave three years of strenuous and sacrificial service to the congregation, during which time 109 new members were received.

Immediately after the chapel had been erected, steps were taken

toward the organizing of a Sunday School. The community was canvassed for prospective pupils, and funds with which to buy literature. Twenty-four pupils were present for the first session. John Kutz was its first superintendent and James Stahr its first secretary. The remaining four of the charter church members served as teachers. Mrs. Sarah Ebbert, Jacob Gossler (the first leader for the church class), and Joseph Levan, soon joined the first group of Sunday School promoters, and gave many years of faithful service.

A quarterly conference record under date of May 3, 1851 shows that Israel Carpenter, Martin Seiler, and W. Boyer were class leaders and Michael Sands, Amos Graul, and Hiram Roland were class stewards. At this meeting the quarterly license of Martin Seiler was renewed and Israel Carpenter received his first license.

A charter of incorporation was granted by the Berks County Court to "Zion's Church of the United Brethren in Christ," August 12, 1853. The names of the incorporators affixed to the instrument are: William Dusen, William Bingaman, Jacob Gossler, Daniel B. Lewis, Joseph Sands, Michael Sands, Amos Graul, and Mordecai Frederick. In the same year the lot and the two houses on it were sold by Solomon Weidman to William Bingaman, Michael Sands, and Jacob Gossler, trustees of Zion's Church, for the sum of \$2,100. These transactions were made while the congregation was in process of erecting its second house of worship. The new church, fronting on the street, was of brick construction, two stories in height, the lower floor to be used by the Sunday School and the upper floor as a Sanctuary. The structure costing \$6,000 was dedicated to Divine Worship, November 6, 1853.

One hundred and one members constituted the congregation at the time. The amount involved in cost of lot and erection of church building turned out to be quite a financial burden for them. A debt of \$3,000 remained to be paid after dedication. Annual conference, over a period of more than a decade, took measures to assist the congregation in meeting its financial obligations. This was fully accomplished in about the year 1868.

Reading Zion's third house of worship was erected on the old site in 1898. The cornerstone was laid April 24. Services were in charge of the Rev. J. H. VonNieda, pastor. The Rev. H. S. Gabel, presiding elder, preached the sermon, and the Revs. I. E. Runk and R. R. Butterwick assisted in the service. The building is patterned somewhat after the second in that it has two main floors. The sanctuary on the second floor with its gallery seats about 550. The building constructed of brick with a brown-stone front, together with furnishings, cost \$13,203.23. It was dedicated October 30, 1898 by Bishop Nicholas Castle, with a number of conference ministers present, some taking part in the services of the day.

In 1907 the interior of the church was renovated, electric lights and a new two-manual pipe organ were installed. The total cost

of these improvements was \$3,500. General renovations were made and new furnishings installed in 1926 costing \$3,500. A new heating plant was installed in 1931 at a cost of \$1,028. Currently there is in progress a third general renovation and improvement program which calls for sandblasting the stone front, erection of concrete steps and guard rail, new lighting, new oil-burner unit, excavating and fitting out of basement, and placing movable curtains on the street-level floor for Sunday School rooms.

The Rev. Mark J. Hostetter came to this congregation in the fall of 1945 and since then is leading out in the plans for the project of renovation. The church trustees at present are: Harry N. Brown, Jacob O. Lentz, Thomas G. Ebright, S. B. Klopp, and Earl M. Leisey. Elmer Z. Yoder is the general superintendent of the Sunday School and lay representative to annual conference. Among the lay workers not above mentioned are: John E. Best, George R. Ebright, John W. Holsberg, Samuel L. Clauser, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy S. Lingham, Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Hartman, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis O. Davies, Mrs. Carrie V. Kreider, Mrs. Nellie L. Lonaberger, Mrs. Rebecca Menges, Mrs. Elizabeth Newpher, Mrs. Walter S. Smith, Mrs. Elmer Z. Yoder, Mrs. Walter P. Zell, Mrs. Elizabeth Haines, Mrs. Esther N. Walters, Elizabeth E. Walters, Janet Hoy, and Margaret Lonaberger.

Reading Zion gave three sons to the active ministry within our conference bounds: viz., Israel Carpenter, Amos Graul, and J. C. H. Light. The Rev. Graul's career is recorded in Chapter X of this volume; that of the Rev. Light under the Lititz Church. The Rev. Israel Carpenter, who was licensed by this class, was born in the city of Lancaster, October 17, 1824, and died in the city of Reading October 2, 1890. He was converted in Zion Church under the pastorate of the Rev. Noll, was granted annual license in 1852, and was ordained in 1855. He served a total of ten conference appointments over the years 1852 to 1879. About the year 1885 he lost his sight while living in retirement at Reading. He was an eloquent and forceful preacher.

The following ministers served this church: Simon Noll, 1849-52; David Hoffman, 1852-55; Joseph Young, Jr., 1855-57; G. W. Hoffman, 1857-60; J. G. Fritz, 1860-61; Jacob Brewer, 1861-63; D. M. Kauffman, 1863-64; Ezekiel Light, 1864-67; Jacob Runk, 1867-69; Job Light, 1869-72; J. H. Unger, 1872-76; J. H. Mark, 1876-79; David Hoffman, 1879-81; Samuel Etter Jr., 1881-86; Job Light, 1886-88; Job Light, J. H. VonNieda, 1888-89; J. H. VonNieda, 1889-94; Uriah Gambler, 1894-95; S. S. Daugherty, 1895-97; J. H. VonNieda, 1897-99; A. G. Nye, 1899-1904; I. H. Albright, 1904-06; G. D. Batdorf, 1906-11; A. K. Wier, 1911-13; D. D. Brandt, 1913-16; C. E. Boughter, 1916-20; M. B. Spayd, 1920-22; L. R. Walters, 1922-24; J. M. Walters, 1924-30; C. R. Longenecker, 1930-33; J. W. Luckens, 1933-43; J. W. Luckens, H. S. Peiffer, 1943-44; R. H. Sholter, 1943-44; John H. Gable, H. J. P. Himmelberger, 1944-45; and Mark J. Hostetter, 1945-46.

John Wanshop, a real patriarch both in demeanor and years, and

a local preacher, transferred to Zion Church from the Alsace Chapel class in 1906 at the time when services were disbanded there. He was born in Ruscomb Manor Township, Berks County, and lived in his native community all his life. "He had a conversion experience and became a devout Christian at the age of sixteen." His German sermons, delivered in extreme seriousness, made a great impression upon all his hearers.

Shoemakersville, Salem Church

The church organization had its origin in a prayer meeting group which met in the homes of those participating. In 1871 the group met in the home of Peter D. Heckman, and in 1873 at the home of Samuel Leshner. During this year the group journeyed occasionally to the Bern Church about six miles westerly from Shoemakersville. The Rev. S. V. Mohn who was pastor of Landingville Circuit 1874-76, which included the Bern Church, was invited to Shoemakersville to hold services.

A class of thirty members was organized by the Reverend Mohn in 1874. Samuel Etter Jr. succeeded him in February, 1876 as pastor of the above circuit. Under his ministry ground was broken for the erection of a church building. The cornerstone was laid in June, and the church dedicated in November of the same year. It was a small brick house, plainly built.

John Seiger, Peter D. Heckman, and Frank Gundy constituted the first trustee board. Their immediate successors were Israel Strausser, Richard Perry, Samuel Leshner, and William Epler. The Sunday School was organized in 1878. Henry Dubson was one of the early superintendents of the school. The church membership remained small for a period of nearly half a century, numbering forty in 1920. The Sunday School at the same time had an enrollment of 170.

Plans for a new edifice were adopted in 1924. The last service in the old church was held August 15, 1926, and cornerstone laying ceremonies for the new were held October 31, conducted by Dr. S. C. Enck and the pastor. Within a year's time the beautiful new brick church was completed. Bishop Wm. M. Bell performed the act of dedication at the afternoon service of October 30, 1927. The Bishop also preached at the morning hour, and Doctor Enck preached in the evening. During evenings of the week following, former pastors and other guest ministers spoke. On the Sabbath following, the dedicatory celebration was concluded with the pastor and Dr. J. Arthur Heck of The Evangelical School of Theology, Reading, preaching at the morning and evening services, respectively.

The seating capacity of the Sanctuary room is 300; the Sunday School main room and the basement room for elementary work can accommodate 300. The cost of construction and equipment was \$52,000, of which amount \$35,236.40 was paid by the close of the conference year. This project was accomplished by an organization of seventy-four church members and a School of 178 pupils. At the

same time enrollment in Christian Endeavor Societies was seventy-five and in the Women's Missionary Association forty-three. A new two-manual Moller pipe organ costing \$4,200 was added to the equipment in 1931. It was dedicated by Doctor Enck on November 25. All indebtedness on the new church and later property expenses were paid by 1937. Special mortgage-burning ceremonies were held October 3. Doctor Enck, with one exception, has been present on every Anniversary celebration occasion.

The Rev. Chester C. Hollingsworth was pastor of this charge 1921-1929, enjoying the distinction of serving the longest pastorate to date. The building enterprise was greatly stimulated by his excellent leadership. Harold C. Hollingsworth, pastor at Pinegrove, is a son of the Reverend Chester. Associated with the pastor in the construction of the new church was the committee comprising Howard Seiger, chairman, Guy H. Madeira, secretary, A. B. Leshner, Foster B. Weidman, and John Strausser. Trustees at the time were Howard Seiger, John Strausser, John Williams, William Strausser Sr., and John Kline. In addition to the above named laymen the following trustees have served since 1927: Guy H. Madeira, Leon W. Miller, Elmer Z. Yoder, A. B. Leshner, David A. Strausser, Foster B. Weidman, and Lyman W. Meyer. The list of Sunday School superintendents includes the names of John Kershner, John Williams, Howard S. Madeira, A. B. Leshner, Guy H. Madeira, and Paul A. Balthaser. Other workers in official capacity are: Wayne S. Leshner, Seward D. Wheeler, Mrs. Foster B. Weidman, Mrs. C. W. Schwalm, Mrs. Ella R. Strausser, Mrs. Leon W. Miller, Mrs. Elda Meyer, Mrs. Evelyn H. Raudenbush, Mrs. Henry C. Krieger, Mrs. Donald M. Yost, Evelyn Kaufman, Lorraine Moyer, Howard S. Madeira, George W. Grickis, Mrs. Guy H. Madeira, and Mrs. Seward D. Wheeler.

The ministers who have served the Shoemakersville Church are those who were appointed to the following Circuits: Landingville, 1874-80; Berks County, 1880-82; Landingville, 1882-83; Sinking Spring, 1883-94; Bern, 1894-1901; Sinking Spring, 1901-04; Bern, 1904-25. Those appointed to the Shoemakersville-Bern charge were: C. C. Hollingsworth, 1925-29; S. L. Rhoads, 1929-30; C. E. Ulrich, 1930-35; L. R. Walters, 1935-38; A. L. Haeseler, 1938-42; H. M. Falstick, 1942-46.

Sinking Spring Church

The two-story brick church standing along the highway running through Sinking Spring, near Van Reed Road, was erected in 1866-67. The cornerstone was laid October 14, 1866, and the completed building was dedicated June 9, 1867. The pastor's report to the 1946 session of annual conference shows a church membership of forty, a Women's Missionary Association of seventeen, an Otterbein Guild of ten, and a Ladies' Aid Society of nineteen members.

However, long before anyone dreamed of laying a foundation of stone for a special house of worship, the spiritual foundations for



Sinking Spring Church



Shoemakersville Church

a United Brethren work in and about Sinking Spring were laid. Christian Newcomer was present at two Sacramental Meetings held near Sinking Spring at an early date. George Geeting was Newcomer's companion for the first meeting, which was held in 1796; at the second meeting, held the following year, Newcomer, Troxel, and Pfrimmer preached, and possibly Boehm and Christian Crum.

There is a tradition that the meetings were held at the Weidman home about a mile west of Sinking Spring, but Newcomer does not in either case mention the name of the residence. The first Weidman to reside on this now famed farm was Solomon Weidman. Joseph Weidman, the father of Solomon, lived in Brecknock Township. The time element does not admit of reaching the conclusion that the earliest Sacramental meetings were held at Solomon Weidman's farm; first, from the fact that he was born February 13, 1807; and second, that he did not move to the vicinity of Sinking Spring until the year 1833.²

While the location of the meeting place of the earliest Sacramental meeting is not known, it is well known that such meetings at a later date were held on the Weidman farm. The traveling preachers held services there regularly until the church in the town was erected. Sinking Spring Circuit was created in 1855. Four times annual conference formed a Sinking Spring Circuit, none of them being alike in structure. At one period it reached as far south as the Shissler Church near Neffsville, and at another period as far north as Bern Church.

A church book of the circuit lists on the roll of the Sinking Spring congregation for the years 1871-81, the following: Amanda Blankenbiller, Sebastian Blimline, Elizabeth Barr, Samuel and Margaret

Eshelman, Lewis, Louisa, and Catherine Herchner, Rebecca Kramer, George Krick, Mary Hinnershitz, Wallace and Kate Moyer, John, Kate, Frank, and Rebecca Miller, Isaac Messner, Daniel Laush, Sarah Livengood, Richard and Mary Pannabecker, George and Esther Peiffer, John Reedy, Thomas J. Rude, Allen, Joel, Elizabeth, William, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Elizabeth, Beneville, and Rosa Steffy, Susan Seibert, Isaac and Sarah Trostel, Beneville B. and Sarah Weidman.

Beneville B. Weidman, Joel Steffy Jr., Allen Steffy, Solomon B. Weidman, Daniel Laush, Benneville Steffy, and William Steffy were the class officers for the same period.

The Weidman family has maintained an active interest in the work of the church, as is evident from the following roll of officers. Solomon Weidman, Raymond P. Weidman, and Cleaven Steffy constitute the present trustee board. Daniel Weidman is now and has been for many years church treasurer. Harry Miller has had long-time service as superintendent of the Sunday School. The names of Jacquelyn Miller, Mrs. Ira Ruth, Mrs. Olivia Weidman, Mrs. Elsie Evans, and Nora Livingood complete the official roster.

The ministers who were appointed to the Berks County Circuit would be those who served the Sinking Spring class prior to 1855. Following that year, circuit attachments were as follows: Sinking Spring, 1855-59; Myerstown, 1859-60; Sinking Spring, 1860-69; Schaefferstown, 1870-71; Sinking Spring, 1871-73; Hamburg, 1873-74; Brunnerville, 1874-75; Hopeland (then Paradise), 1875-81; Berks County, 1881-83; Sinking Spring, 1883-94; Reading Third Church, 1894-95.

Ministers serving the Sinking Spring charge, 1895-1907, were: Ira E. Albert, 1895-97; I. E. Runk, 1897-98; R. R. Butterwick, 1898-1900; D. D. Buddinger, 1900-01; M. H. Miller, 1901-04; P. M. Holde-man, Jacob Runk, J. Warren Kauffman, 1904-05; J. Warren Kauffman, C. W. Shoop, 1905-06.

From 1907 to 1910, it was with Denver Church. Sinking Spring Church was served by J. P. Smith, 1910-11; Uriah Gambler, 1911-12; and P. F. Roberts, 1912-13. It was again attached to Denver, 1913 to 1920. While a charge from 1920 to 1926, the following were appointed: J. H. Arnold, 1920-22; James Bingham, 1922-23; Elias Bressler, 1923-24; Ira F. Fortna, 1924-25; R. G. Becketl, 1925-26. It was under Reading Salem, 1926-32; with Denver, 1932-33; and under Reading Salem, 1933-35; under Reading Zion, 1935-43; and under Reading Trinity, 1943-46.

3. Abandoned Churches and Classes of Berks County

Albany Circuit

In 1882 East German Conference created a new charge which it called Albany Mission and appointed Isaac Goodling and R. S. Arndt. It consisted of West Penn, and Drehersville appointments in Schuylkill County; and Albany, Stinesville, and Kistler Valley appointments located in the extreme

northwestern part of Berks County. The Circuit or Mission took its name from Albany Township, Berks County. The charge existed for one year only, and then its appointments were added to Landingville Circuit.

Albany Class

Albany Class tried to purchase the Bolick's Church in Albany Township. The presiding elder, in 1883, reported that this building could be bought for the sum of \$350, if the amount could be raised by April 1, 1884. The Rev. R. S. Arndt who traveled the Landingville Circuit in 1883-84 had collected \$30 to apply on the purchase price. The agreement of the previous year was not carried out—the church did not come into the possession of the United Brethren. The class had a brief existence.

Alsace Chapel, Alsace Township

This chapel was located about five miles from the heart of Reading in a northeasterly direction. Members of Reading Zion Church and citizens of the township interested in establishing a new congregation erected the small frame chapel, twenty and one-half feet by thirty-one feet, in 1878. The names on the deed of sale are: Joel Ganser, Mordecai Frederick, Jacob Snyder, Joseph Levan, Jeremiah Ebert, Samuel Hertz, John Printz, William Eyler, and Solomon F. Seidel. The class was attached to the following churches and circuits, respectively: Reading Zion Church, Berks County Circuit, Sinking Spring Circuit, Reading Salem Church, and finally Reading Zion. Services were discontinued about 1906. The chapel was razed in 1919 and the ground reverted to the farm of which it formerly had been a part.

Amity Church, Amity Township

The small settlement in Amity Township, variously bearing the names, New Storeville, Amity Post Office, and Amityville, is located at the intersection of the Yellow House-Douglasville road and an east-and-west road. The United Brethren worshiped in a small, plain brick church building which was erected by the English element of St. Paul's Lutheran Parish. After this element rejoined its former fellowship, our people began to use the building they had erected. Amity Mission or Amityville appears on boundary reports and on stationing committee reports from 1854 to 1891. These names are varyingly applied to both a church and a circuit. Attachment of the class shifted constantly—as many as eleven times during its existence. We have not found a deed on record to show that the United Brethren owned the property, but the Atlas of Berks County (1876) shows the location of a United Brethren Church in Amityville.

Forrest Class

This class met in an old stone church building located southwest of Shillington. A church roll of the Paradise (Hopeland) Circuit of 1874 lists the following members: Frederick and Barbara Blimline, Henry and Katie Fritz, Sebastian and Margaret Laudenbach, and Abraham and Sarah Steffy.

Hamburg Appointment

A charge named Hamburg Mission was formed in 1873. An appropriation of \$150 was made, and John H. Lowery was appointed its minister. He reports three classes and four appointments. This shows that it was really a circuit. The records show that Sinking Spring Church and Bern Church were on the circuit. The status of the work at Hamburg is not known. Hamburg is once more mentioned in 1882, when it was taken from Berks County Circuit and attached to Landingville.

Kutztown Mission

In 1852 David Hoffman, then pastor at Reading, extended his appointments northeastward to include Kutztown. A mission was established which in 1868 was attached to Bethlehem Mission, and in 1869 to Allentown. There is no later mention of this work in Kutztown.

Monocacy Church

A half mile south of Baumstown on the Reading-Pottstown Road stood a United Brethren Church known as Monocacy, or Exeter Church. A half acre of land with a church building on it was bought from George Wamsher in 1869, and the church rebuilt by the class. It was attached to Amity, Berks County, Port Providence, and Phoenixville Circuits. It was also on Monocacy Circuit, which derived its name from this church. At an earlier date, 1862, Baumstown appointment was also listed. Exeter appears, 1880, 1883, and 1884.

Mt. Shiloh Church, Caernarvon Township

About a mile and a half north of Morgantown stands Mt. Shiloh Church. Religious services were held by various groups beginning in the year 1851 in an old stone Schoolhouse known as "Ammon's." The United Brethren began holding services about the year 1885 under the ministry of the Reverend J. F. Mower, pastor of the Elverson Charge. The class was organized in the year 1886. The Reverend Elmer Hoffman, a local preacher, was the first class leader and Sunday School superintendent. Construction of a church building was begun in the same year. It was used about five years before it was completed. In the meantime building paper covered the ceiling and common pine boards on trusses served as crude seats. The Reverend U. S. G. Renn finally succeeded in collecting enough money to complete the structure. It was dedicated in 1891 by the Reverend M. J. Mumma, presiding elder. After some years a controversy arose over ownership of the property. At the conference session of 1901, a Mr. W. H. Wilson made a statement with reference to the Mt. Shiloh Church. Conference agreed to give moral support to the action of the quarterly conference of the Elverson Charge in its efforts to secure the property. This effort evidently ended in failure and occupancy by the United Brethren ceased. In 1927 The Evangelical Congregational denomination began holding services in it.

Reading, Laurel Street

The Committee on Resolutions report in the 1890 proceedings contains the following item: "That the presiding elder of the Harrisburg District in conjunction with the pastor of Otterbein Church shall proceed at once to organize a new mission in the southern part of Reading." Reading Laurel Street was placed on the list of charges, but was left open to be supplied. Similar items reappear in 1872 and 1873. What, if anything, was done to establish this proposed new mission, the conference proceedings fail to show. In 1874 conference ordered that Reading Laurel Street be discontinued.

Reading, Otterbein Church

The language problem entered into the founding of a new congregation in the city of Reading in the year 1866. Forty-four members of Zion Church organized this new class whose services should be exclusively in English. This separation was mutually agreed upon by both the German and English speaking members of Zion Church. After worshiping several months in Hag's Hall, northeast corner of Penn and Seventh Streets, a small new chapel of frame construction was dedicated for the new organization by Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner, March 31, 1867. The church lot, 40x109 feet, costing \$1,600 was located on the west side of North Eighth Street between Walnut and Elm, now the site of Ludens Inc. Michael Sands, William Bingaman, E. G. Fishburn, and Joseph Sands, are named as trustees in the deed of purchase.

Some financial matters arising out of the relation between the mother church and the new congregation were brought before annual conference in 1867. The conference committee appointed to consider these matters recommended to the English brethren that, if possible, they compromise with the German brethren by accepting the sum of \$500 instead of \$750 as a settlement.

In 1879 the chapel was remodeled and enlarged. In 1883 and in 1904 the building was further improved. These enlargements and improvements gave the house of worship a churchly appearance on its exterior and made it quite convenient for worship and instruction by its interior capacity and arrangement.

The congregation reached the peak of its numerical strength in 1887, the pastor reporting at the close of the conference year a church membership of 369. Industrial encroachment and railroad expansion to the rear of the property and the closing of several east and west streets in the area were contributory factors in lessening its former more favorable location. The congregation began considering relocating. Pursuant thereof it sold its property to William Luden for the sum of \$10,000 and purchased a lot on the northwest corner of North Fifth and Spring Streets at a cost of \$8,600.

Those in authority in annual conference circles advised against relocation and recommended the alternate plan of uniting Otterbein and Memorial churches. The conference of 1912, by resolution, ordered that the two congregations unite. Some of the 127 members which Otterbein reported in 1911 transferred to Trinity Church, some to Zion Church, and others were lost to the denomination.

The ministers serving Otterbein Church were: Lewis Peters, 1867-71; Wm. B. Evers, 1871-72; Israel Carpenter, 1872-76; M. J. Mumma, 1876-78; J. B. Funk, 1878-80; H. C. Phillips, 1880-85; M. P. Doyle, 1885-88; M. A. Salt, 1888-89; Isaiah Baltzell, 1889-92; H. D. Lehman, 1892-95; Z. A. Weidler, 1895-98; J. R. Meredith, 1898-1904; Esdras Ludwig, 1904-06; C. I. B. Brane, 1906-08; C. I. B. Brane, J. T. Spangler, 1908-09; G. B. Renshaw, 1909-10; J. B. Rittgers, C. W. Shoop, 1911-12.

Miscellaneous Classes

Bernville, 1855, Brownstown, 1890, Kistler Valley, 1882, Pine 1880, Robesonia, 1882, Stinesville, 1882, Wernersville, 1882, and Wummer's, 1854, appointments are mentioned in Boundary Committee reports. Knowledge concerning them is limited to this mention.

4. Introduction: The Area of Chester and Montgomery Counties

United Brethren itinerants serving established churches and circuits in Berks County extended their efforts eastward into Chester and Montgomery Counties. Annual conference, in the year 1852, placed Chester County Mission on the list of appointments and sent James Chamberline to serve it. The strength of the work can be estimated by the figures he submitted at the close of his year's work. He reports four appointments, two classes, a membership of fourteen, and a salary paid by the charge of \$6.15, plus forty-five dollars received from the conference missionary fund. The names of these preaching points are not on record. Nothing is known to the writer of this minister except that he was admitted to annual conference membership in 1852, and that his name was dropped in 1861. Later developments in Chester County appear under Elverson and Coatesville Churches.

A circuit known as Montgomery Circuit was opened in 1854. In 1855 David Hoffman, pastor of Reading Zion Church reports separately for Amity Circuit. It seems that this was merely a substitution of name for Montgomery Circuit. He reports for Amity Mission (or circuit), three appointments and eleven members. Amity Mission continues as a charge until 1861. From that year forward until 1882, Amity, Monocacy, and Sinking Spring Circuits include

in their structure certain classes and preaching appointments in Montgomery and Chester Counties, as well as some in Berks County.

5. The Churches of Chester County

Coatesville, Grace Church

Industrial and labor opportunities induced some United Brethren to move to Coatesville. Among them was the Charles C. Leber family which came from Elverson. For a number of years other families who had gone to Coatesville were lost to our denomination because we had no church there. The interest of the Leber family and of the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, pastor of the Elverson charge, in conserving our members, prompted the organizing of a class. This was accomplished at the Leber home, 41 South Fourth Street, on November 5, 1901, by the Rev. Mr. Rigor. Charles C. Leber, Emma P. Leber, J. W. Hughes, Mary Hughes, Mame Trego, and Howard Wilson made up the charter membership class. Mr. Hughes was elected class leader, and Messrs. Leber and Wilson, class stewards.

The ensuing annual conference recognized the class, placed it on its list of appointments as Coatesville Mission, appointed the Reverend Rigor, and made an appropriation of \$300 to supplement his salary. The class now having increased to fourteen in number, rented the Odd Fellows Hall for a place of worship. A Sunday School was organized with W. P. Snyder as superintendent and J. H. Peters as assistant. A Christian Endeavor Society also was organized, having A. H. Gehman as president and Mrs. Violet Bokes as vice president. The first trustee board consisted of G. W. Miles Rigor, W. P. Snyder, E. V. S. Diem, Charles C. Leber, and H. J. Bokes. A lot for a proposed church was purchased. Later the executive committee of the Conference Church Extension Society visited Coatesville by the request of the pastor and the trustees, and, after investigation, a joint decision was reached that the lot was not suitable for a church site.

During the year 1905-06 purchase was made of a lot located on the corner of Virginia Avenue and Olive Street for the sum of \$1,900. On this lot a church, costing \$8,000, was built under the direction of the following trustees: E. V. S. Diem, W. R. Kenner, P. H. Heckler, R. B. Stover, and S. A. Bell. The building, 40 by 60 feet in size, erected of Reading shale brick with Indiana limestone trimmings, was dedicated March 3, 1907 by Bishop Job S. Mills, assisted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder, and H. M. Klinger, pastor. Items in the pastor's report of 1908 are: Members, seventy; Sunday School enrollment, 275; Senior Christian Endeavor Society, forty-four; and Junior Society, 103.

A modern dwelling located at 49 South Sixth Avenue was purchased in 1923 at a cost of \$5,500 for the pastor's residence. The house of worship has been kept in an excellent state of repair. A basement was constructed in 1932 to provide for class rooms; cost of the improvement was \$1,089.50. The church membership now

Coatesville Church



stands at 200. The Rev. Ira R. Fortna, in this year 1946, is completing the ninth year with the people at Coatesville.

The trustee board is composed of Ralph Hackett, P. H. Heckler, Fred Schreiber, Charles Campbell, and Elmer Dripps. Mrs. Ralph Hackett, Mrs. Viola Lyons, Mrs. Elizabeth Spotts, Mrs. Bertha Dripps, Mrs. Ira Fortna, John Rineer, Gorman Norton, Mrs. Charles Gursley, Mrs. Howard Reese, and Mrs. Elizabeth Fortna are among the lay people who promote the organizational work of the congregation. Mr. Heckler has served as trustee since the time of the erection of the church.

The pastors of this church have been: G. W. Miles Rigor, 1902-03; E. B. Harris, 1903-04; H. M. Klinger, 1904-08; H. S. Kiefer, 1908-10; J. Francis Smith, 1910-11; Z. A. Weidler, 1911-14; C. L. Early, G. M. Richter, 1914-15; G. M. Richter, 1915-16; Ira W. Funk, 1916-19; W. E. Daugherty, 1919-23; J. R. MacDonald, 1923-32; James Bingham, 1932-37; and Ira R. Fortna, 1937-46.

Elverson Church

Until the year 1900 Elverson Church was listed on our conference records as Springfield Church, after the name of the village in which it is located. The pioneering work in Chester County was in the nature of revival meetings held on a farm now in possession of Henry Kurtz. The farm is located a short distance southwest of Elverson. The early meetings were open-air revival meetings held for some consecutive years on a hill north of the present farm buildings. In the eighteen-sixties meetings were held in a large tent pitched on the said farm. By the year 1870 there was a class of forty-five members. During the same year the class erected its first house of worship under the leadership of the Rev. Campbell T. Poulton then traveling Amity Circuit. The brick church known as Tabernacle United Brethren Church was erected on the Kurtz farm. Because of faulty construction it served the congregation but thirteen years.

On June 25, 1883 at a quarterly conference meeting held at the pastor's house, the decision was reached to build a new church.

The following were chosen a building committee: S. W. Handwork, Christian Kurtz, Wm. C. Witman, Jacob Diem, William Wilson, William Wamsher, and the pastor, J. F. Mower. The new church was erected on Water Street south of Main, in Elverson. Christian Kurtz, who donated the ground for the original building, also gave the ground for the second.

Excavation was begun on July 24, 1883. The structure, built of stone, cost \$2,551.75. The following items of labor and material costs present a striking comparison to costs of the present. The mason work cost seventy cents per perch; complete plastering job, \$100; carpentering, one dollar and fifty cents per day; and roofing \$3.75 per square. Dedication services were held in December, 1884. A tower was added to the structure in 1890 at an expense of \$525.

The Reverend Poulton who was the moving spirit in the erection of the first church building, and who organized the Phoenixville Church (see Mont Clare Church), was born in Carroll County, Ohio, August 17, 1837, and departed from this life at North Vineland, New Jersey, April 30, 1873. He entered the ministry at the age of twenty-one, came to Pennsylvania in 1858, and in 1869 was received to annual conference membership by acceptance of his credentials from the Methodist Protestant Church. He served Amity Circuit, 1868-70; Monocacy Circuit, 1870-71, and Darien Street Mission, Philadelphia, 1871-72. He was a great revivalist and a good organizer.

During more recent years the work at Elverson has suffered losses by removal of members to other communities. Eleven members remain to carry on. Those who compose the present officary of the organization are: Margaret Handwork, Mary Jean Snyder, Mrs. Mary Snyder, Mrs. Marie Seiward, William Benner, Albert Wallace, Henry Hartz, and James Ruoss. The Rev. George S. Ranck is giving part time to the work since April, 1945. His salary is supplemented by the conference Rural Church Commission which has taken this and other measures to keep the work going.

Pastors who served Springfield Circuit were: J. F. Mower, 1880-86; J. G. Smoker, J. Francis Smith, 1886-87; George A. Doyle, 1887-89; U. S. G. Renn, 1889-91; J. K. Wagner, 1891-93; M. J. Mumma, W. M. Goodwin, 1893-94; W. M. Goodwin, 1894-97; N. A. Kiracofe, 1897-98; and Thomas Garland, 1898-1900. Those serving Elverson Circuit were: G. F. Bierman, J. A. Grier, 1900-01; G. W. M. Rigor, 1901-02; G. B. Raezer, 1902-04; William Beach, 1904-06; and J. Francis Smith, 1906-07. Elverson was attached to Birdsboro, 1907-1931, and since 1931 to Coatesville, or under Coatesville quarterly conference.

6. The Churches of Montgomery County

Mont Clare, Otterbein Church

Three efforts to establish a United Brethren Church in the vicinity of Mont Clare enter into the background of the present church organization. The first was at Phoenixville in Chester County where a class was organized in about the year 1868. In 1870 Phoenix-

ville Mission was constituted of Otterbein and Phoenixville appointments. Otterbein appointment soon thereafter dropped out of the picture. Under the ministry of the Rev. Campbell T. Poulton, then pastor of Amity Circuit, a church building was erected on Gay Street. In 1878 annual conference ordered that the class be abandoned and the building be sold. The church trustees did not comply with the order and the class organization was maintained. Phoenixville Circuit was created a second time in 1880, but it existed for one year only. In 1881 the class was attached to Monocacy Circuit. The building was sold to a congregation of the Reformed Church in 1882.

The second effort was in Port Providence, about a half mile south of Mont Clare. Port Providence class is on the list of appointments in 1883. Work on the erection of a church building was begun in 1888. During the following year the class began holding services in it. On October 9, 1890 the presiding elder made the following statement: "The church building is a two-story stone structure, and was completed during the year, and is valued at \$3,830. It was dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, August 24th, free of all encumbrances." The pastor, Elmer E. Hoffman, reported to this annual session a church membership of sixty-seven, and a Sunday School enrollment of 171 pupils and sixteen teachers and officers. In 1891 the conference changed the name of this church to Mont Clare. The interior of the building was renovated in 1892.

In 1900, the Rev. J. Francis Smith recommended to annual conference the disbanding of the organization, stating that it was hopeless to continue. Conference complied and sent letters of transfer to all members. Many of the members accepted their letters; but a few continued to work and meet for worship. William Force, a local minister, led the group. Later the services of the Rev. S. Edwin Rupp, while engaged in special studies, were secured. On September 17, 1904, the congregation voted to become definitely affiliated with the United Brethren Church, having up to this time maintained a more or less independent relation. The presiding elder reported to the 1904 session as follows: "Through the tactful efforts of Rev. S. E. Rupp, in connection with his school work, this charge (Mont Clare) was thoroughly organized and greatly strengthened. This class now comes with a good, substantial church building and a membership of eighty-five persons."

While the Rev. J. Owen Jones was pastor a large seven-room brick house, 128 Walnut Street, was purchased in 1917 for the sum of \$3,150. During 1938-39, two lots next to the church property were bought, hardwood floors were laid in the Sunday School room and on the basement floor, and the main worship room was re-decorated. The improvements cost \$696. Both interior and exterior of the building were painted in 1942; also new pews and new lights were installed, and a new floor laid in the worship room. The building was reopened for services on March 15, Dr. C. A. Lynch



Mont Clare Church



Pottstown Church

preaching the sermon, with the Rev. Wm. C. Blatt, pastor, in charge.

The trustee board consists of: W. J. Epprecht Sr., C. E. Readman, Paul Sipple, Newton Ulmer, J. H. Detweiler, H. B. Willaredt, Earl Blank, Irvin Taney, and John Keene. General Sunday School officers who have given years of service are: John Keene, superintendent, sixteen years; W. J. Epprecht Jr., treasurer, twenty-eight years; Sarah Mitchell, secretary, thirty-five years. Mrs. William Weinert has been primary superintendent twenty-three years; Mrs. E. B. Pernet has served thirty-one years as secretary of the Ladies' Aid Society, and Mrs. Ida Kesting, twenty-one years as treasurer of the same organization. Mrs. W. J. Epprecht has been president of the Women's Missionary Association for nineteen years. C. E. Readman has had twenty-four years as financial secretary, thirty-six years as Sunday School teacher. Eliza Phillips is superintendent of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and Mrs. Wm. C. Blatt of the Junior Society.

Phoenixville Mission, or Circuit, was served by the following ministers: E. L. Hughes, 1870-75; Wm. B. Evers, 1875-77; J. B. Funk, 1877-78; and H. S. Rice, 1880-81.

Port Providence Charge had the following ministers: G. B. McKee, 1884-86; H. A. Buffington, E. E. Hoffman, 1886-87; E. E. Hoffman, 1887-91.

Mont Clare was served by the following: U. S. G. Renn, 1891-93; J. F. Mower, 1893-94; George Cavanaugh, 1894-95; by the minister of Pottstown Church, 1895-96; H. H. Hoffer, 1896-98; J. F. Smith, 1898-1900; S. E. Rupp, 1904-06; A. S. Beckley, 1906-10; H. C. Kottler, 1910-11; C. E. Rettew, 1911-12; C. H. Holzinger, 1912-13; J. O. Jones, 1913-19; J. E. Keene, 1919-26; P. C. Hoffman, 1926-28; Wm. H. Quaid, 1928-36; R. G. Becktel, 1936-40; and Wm. C. Blatt, 1940-46.

Pottstown, Baltzell Memorial Church

The founding of a congregation in Pottstown followed the almost universal pattern: that where a few United Brethren settled, there a church was established. Those who came to Pottstown met in

one another's homes for prayer and to hear, occasionally, a sermon by a visiting itinerant. The homes of William Kerper on Penn Alley between Beech and Second streets and of Davis Arters on the northeast corner of Lincoln and Hale streets were open to such meetings. The Rev. Elmer E. Hoffman, while serving the Port Providence Circuit, was the minister who made such visits, and in time organized a class.

The trustees elected for the class were: J. L. Kennedy, William Kerper, G. A. Bulon, H. F. Lessig, H. K. Morgan, H. Linsinbigler, and David Arters. These men became interested in providing a house of worship. They first purchased a lot, thirty feet by one hundred and three feet, fronting on Hale Street, near Jefferson Avenue, March 15, 1889, for the sum of \$107; and second they applied for a charter of incorporation. The latter was granted by the Montgomery County Court, September 6, 1889.

On this lot a plainly built chapel, twenty by forty-eight feet was erected and dedicated to Divine worship on August 4, 1889. The Rev. Lewis Peters preached at the morning service and performed dedicatory rites; the Rev. Ezekiel L. Hughes preached at the afternoon service; and the Rev. Peters gave another discourse in the evening. Due to being poorly located, the site was abandoned just nineteen months after completion of the chapel.

The Conference Church Extension Society bought a new and more promising site, and placed on it a temporary structure for the sum of \$250. This lot, costing \$2,000, was located on the north side of Walnut Street near Washington Street. The date of purchase was January 31, 1891. In the fall of 1892 the Rev. Isaiah Baltzell was appointed to Pottstown. After a brief period of three months his labors were brought to an end by the summons of death.

The Rev. Grant L. Shaeffer, his successor, went to work enthusiastically to make possible a permanent house of worship. The cornerstone was laid October 1, 1893 with appropriate ceremonies, in which the Rev. H. B. Dohner, presiding elder, and pastor Shaeffer participated. The trustees—H. E. Lau, John W. Hughes, J. L. Kennedy, William Kerper, D. P. Rinker, H. G. Reigner, and the pastor—had general oversight of the work. The main room, thirty by forty feet in size, was furnished with semi-circular pews having a seating capacity of 250. This communicated with a class room fifteen by twenty feet in size. Bishop Jonathan Weaver dedicated the edifice on January 28, 1894, as the Baltzell Memorial Church. Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder, preached in the afternoon and conducted the service of Holy Communion.

On the morning of January 1, 1941, the building was partially destroyed by fire. Immediate steps for construction were taken. After completion, the house of worship, now more beautiful and commodious than before the disaster, was dedicated June 8, 1941 by Dr. S. C. Enck, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. James O. Beamesderfer. The cost, \$2,872, was partly met by income from fire insurance.

Early in the year 1907 the house at 516 Walnut Street was purchased for use as a parsonage. Due to financial exigencies the property had to be sold. The pastors, for a number of years, lived in a rented dwelling at 119 North Washington Street. In March 1945, under the pastorate of the Rev. James O. Bemserderfer, a spacious residence at 1331 South Street was purchased by the church for use as a parsonage. The house is of modern brick construction, semi-detached, with seven rooms and all conveniences.

The Jubilee Celebration of dedication of the first chapel was held with special services in 1939, the pastor, Dr. S. C. Enck, Bishop G. D. Batdorf, and former pastors participating in the week-long program.

This church has been served by the following ministers: E. E. Hoffman, 1888-89; Lewis Peters, 1889-91; Lewis Peters, S. C. Enck, 1891-92; Isaiah Baltzell, Grant L. Shaeffer, 1892-93; Grant L. Shaeffer, 1893-94; J. N. Shelly, 1894-96; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1896-98; J. Francis Smith, 1898-99; H. F. McNelly, 1899-1912; J. Maurice Leister, 1912-13; H. F. Boeshore, 1913-17; J. A. Keiper, 1917-19; Carl Heiser, 1919-21; John Corneal, G. F. Bierman, 1921-22; J. M. Walters, 1922-24; G. F. Bierman, 1924-25; C. E. Rickenbaugh, 1925-26; C. E. Ulrich, 1926-28; Grant N. Miller, 1928-29; O. G. Romig, 1929-31; Roy G. Spangler, 1931-32; H. W. Zechman, 1932-33; J. C. Deitzler, 1933-35; Marvin Schell, 1935-40; and J. O. Bemserderfer, 1940-46.

7. The Circuits of Lehigh, Northampton, and Bucks Counties

The circuits of Lehigh, Northampton, and Bucks Counties were: Allentown, Bethlehem, Bucks County, Catasauqua, Lehigh Valley, and Northampton. The periods of their existence and ministers appointed are as follows:

Allentown Circuit, 1908-12; M. H. Miller, 1908-10; R. S. Arndt, 1910-12.

Bethlehem Circuit (1), 1864-65; David Hoffman, 1864-65.

Bethlehem Circuit (2), 1867-79; B. M. Shade, 1867-68; Job Light, 1868-69; Jacob Runk, 1869-72; J. B. Daugherty, 1872-74; J. W. Kunzel, 1874-75; George Shindler, 1875-77; J. H. Lowery, 1877-79.

Bethlehem Circuit (3), Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881: J. H. Miller, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881.

Bucks County Circuit, 1879-81: W. N. Shelly, 1879-80; J. H. Unger, 1880-81.

Catasauqua Circuit (1), 1881-82: M. N. Kelly, 1881-82.

Catasauqua Circuit (2), 1886-90; S. S. Daugherty, 1886-87; William Lamey, 1887-88; and Gottlieb Myer, 1888-90.

Lehigh Valley Circuit, 1870-1908: David Hoffman, 1870-71; J. H. Unger, 1871-72; (For the year 1872-73 attached to Bethlehem Circuit); Simon Noll, 1873-74; Samuel Etter Jr., 1874-76; B. K. Keck, 1876-79; J. H. Lowery, 1879-80; W. H. Uhler, 1880-81; H. B. Spayd,

1881-83; Lewis Fleisher, Ephraim Light, J. R. Blecher, 1883-84; J. R. Blecher, 1884-86; I. B. Koons, 1886-89; P. L. Hains, 1889-92; C. O. Lehr, I. B. Koons, 1892-93; I. B. Koons, 1893-94; William Lamey, 1894-96; M. H. Miller, 1896-1901; C. O. Lehr, 1901-02; I. B. Koons, 1902-05; W. H. Peiffer, 1905-06; I. B. Koons, 1906-07; and G. M. Richter, 1907-08.

Northampton Circuit (1), 1879-87: M. J. Heberly, 1879-81; J. G. Fritz, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881; J. R. Blecher, Oct. 1881-84; B. K. Keck, 1884-85; William Lamey, 1885-87.

Northampton Circuit (2), 1890-1908: Gottlieb Myer, 1890-91; F. J. Butterwick, 1891-94; I. B. Koons, 1894-1902; C. O. Lehr, 1902-05; I. B. Koons, 1905-06; W. H. Peiffer, 1906-08.

Northampton Circuit (3), 1912-46: C. R. Longenecker, 1912-13; G. W. Hess, 1913-16; R. E. Weist, 1916-17; I. B. Koons, 1917-21; W. D. Krick, 1921-23; Harold H. Dieter, 1923-24; Irvin C. Wise, 1924-25; H. M. Falstick, 1932-38; H. R. Blouch, 1938-41; Charles Wolfe, 1941-42; LeRoy W. Dinger, 1942-43; and Herbert H. Bowers, 1943-46.

8. The Churches of Lehigh County

Allentown, Grace Church

Grace Church, Allentown, is the spiritual child of Zion Church of the same city. The pastor of Zion Church, the Rev. J. M. Walters, and his lay leaders took the necessary steps to establish a new organization. On April 6, 1902 a new Sunday School was formally opened in the Steven's Public School Building at Sixth and Tilgham streets, having Cyrus Ritter as its superintendent, who had been elected by the official board of Zion Church. At the next Sabbath's session the following officers were elected: assistant superintendent, A. M. Butterweck; treasurer, B. F. Wehr; superintendents of the Primary Department, Katie Hertz and Emma Rein-smith; secretaries, H. A. Butterweck and Clarence Fisher; librarians, Valentine Allender and Miles Smith; and organist, Mayme A. Scholl.

The church organization was effected in 1903, having eleven charter members, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Wehr, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Ritter, F. M. Hassler, Albert Schimpf, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bergenstock, and Mrs. Ella Bachman. In the same year a lot, sixty by one hundred and twenty feet, located at the corner of Sixth and Washington streets, was purchased by the trustees, who were: F. M. Hassler, B. F. Wehr, George Breining, Richard A. Parks, C. H. Wolf, Dr. A. J. Hertz, and Cyrus Ritter. A commodious brick church was erected, the cornerstone being laid May 25, 1904. The officiating ministers were the Reverends H. S. Gabel, C. I. B. Brane, and the pastor, S. L. Rhoads. Bishop Wm. M. Bell dedicated the house of worship September 4, 1904. The lot and church with furnishings cost \$8,425.33.

Major improvements made to the building are as follows: exca-

vation of the basement in 1909; remodeling, refrescoing, and recarpeting in 1926, costing \$700; and refinishing of interior in 1937, costing \$1,350. After the last mentioned work was completed, the Rev. M. V. Fridinger preached on the occasion of reopening at the morning service of August 29th, and the Rev. H. M. Falstick at the evening service. Pastor H. M. Tobias led out in this project of remodeling. He also was pastor when a new Orgatron was dedicated November 10, 1941.

The house at 758 North Sixth Street was purchased in 1917 for use as a parsonage at a cost of \$4,400.

Cyrus Ritter, Charles Bergenstock, George Bachman, and Stanley J. Kleppinger, the latter still serving, have been superintendents of the Sunday School. Other lay workers at present are: Ralph Hittinger, Mr. and Mrs. Ammon C. Roth, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Barto, Alfred Marsden, Warren Wehr, Mae Forstler, Mrs. Samuel Engler, and Mrs. Edward R. Bray.



Allentown Grace Church

The ministers who have served Grace Church are: S. L. Rhoads, 1903-04; A. G. Nye, 1904-06; Z. A. Weidler, 1906-08; W. W. Fridinger, 1908-09; C. H. Holzinger, 1909-10; E. E. Bender, 1910-13; C. G. White, 1913-16; L. D. Gottschall, 1916-18; Clarence Mease, 1918-21; E. E. Bender, 1921-32; L. R. Walters, 1932-35; H. M. Tobias, 1935-42; and A. L. Haeseler, 1942-46.

Allentown Zion Church



Allentown, Zion Church

Sporadic efforts had been made prior to 1864 to establish a church in Lehigh Valley, but without permanent success. The Rev. David Hoffman in 1855 preached in Millerstown and Allentown. In 1862 members of the United Brethren Church residing in Allentown attempted to secure the services of the Rev. Hoffman in the interest of organizing a congregation. The next year the Rev. Henry Hilbish, then traveling Amity Circuit, rented buildings in Allentown and Bethlehem and preached occasionally.

The following year, the Rev. David Hoffman was appointed to Bethlehem Circuit. He rented a hall east of Seventh Street on Hamilton Street, where he conducted services for three months. At the end of that period he rented Marx Hall, Ninth and Hamilton streets, the present site of Hess Brothers' Department Store. There the first class was organized in 1864 with three members. That winter a revival was held through which forty persons were led to profess faith in Christ. At the end of the first year the class numbered fifty-four souls. A Sabbath School of twenty-three members was organized, with the following officers elected: Jonas Kunkle, superintendent, John R. Gassler, assistant superintendent; T. J. Schmeier, secretary and librarian. Two prayer classes were organized which had T. J. Schmeier and B. Stettler, respectively, as their leaders.

Free Hall, at the corner of Ninth and Linden streets, site of the present church, was bought April 1, 1866. The first floor of the remodeled building was dedicated by Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner Sept. 8, 1866. By 1870 the cost incurred, \$1,400 was entirely paid.

The church membership had increased to 170. This house of worship was remodeled in 1887 at a cost of \$700. It was again renovated in 1898, the expenditure amounting to \$650.

A fine brick church was erected on the site of the old building in 1905-06, under the ministry of the Rev. H. B. Spayd at a cost of \$25,000. The building committee consisted of George F. Breining, George F. Hummel, Dr. Wm. J. Hertz, William H. Guth, Mason L. Light, Charles A. Bachman, and George H. Bernhard. Bishop Job S. Mills, assisted by Dr. D. D. Lowery, presiding elder, and H. B. Spayd, pastor, dedicated the temple of worship January 3, 1906. The spacious brick parsonage stands next to the church on Linden Street.

At the time of erection of the new church the organization was incorporated. Trustees now in charge of church and parsonage properties are: J. M. Francis, J. Archie Krause, M. A. Reinsmith, Bruce Miller, Chester E. George, John Hilbert, and Clarence Kepp. Among other lay men and women who carry forward the organizations of church life are: Clifford Kinsey, Arthur Prechtel, William Cunningham, Mrs. Mark Kratz, Mrs. Richard Dickert, Mrs. Harry Smith, Ruth Keiper, Carrie Gangaware, Blanche Litzenberger, and Mabel Fenstermacher. Messrs Breining, Francis, Hilbert, and Reinsmith are of those who have represented the congregation as delegates to annual conference.

Ministers serving Zion Church were: David Hoffman, 1865-70; John A. Sand, 1870-72; Henry Schropp, 1872-73; J. B. Daugherty, 1873-75; A. H. Unger, 1875-76; J. H. Unger, 1876-79; J. H. Mark, 1879-81; James Shoop, 1881-82; J. P. Smith, 1882-85; Jacob Runk, 1885-87; M. J. Heberly, 1887-89; W. H. Uhler, 1889-91; H. W. Zimmerman, 1891-92; D. S. Longenecker, J. H. Johnson, 1892-93; J. H. Johnson, 1893-96; J. H. Johnson, G. D. Batdorf, 1897-98; G. D. Batdorf, 1898-1901; J. M. Walters, 1901-03; D. S. Eshleman, 1903-04; H. B. Spayd, 1904-08; C. A. Snively, 1908-14; J. A. Keiper, 1914-17; G. A. Richie, 1917-23; E. O. Burtner, 1923-28; C. W. Hendrickson, 1928-30; D. LeRoy Fegley, 1930-32; C. E. Rettew, 1932-37; J. Allan Ranck, 1937-45; and J. Allan Ranck, Herbert R. Blouch, 1945-46.

9. Abandoned Classes of Lehigh County

Allentown, (English Mission)

East Pennsylvania Conference established a new mission in Allentown in 1871. The class was in possession of a house of worship. Henry V. Mohn served this church 1871-73; John F. Mower, 1873-74; and A. H. Kauffman, 1874-75. In 1875 the property "passed into the hands of the creditor on amiable terms."

Breinigsville, Upper Macungie Township

The class was attached to Lehigh Circuit in 1874. There was a church house owned by our brethren. The class was still in existence in 1900, but conference records do not show when it was discontinued.

East Texas

The class was attached to Lehigh Circuit in 1874. The church was repaired, and a steeple erected and bell placed in 1888. Other improvements were made

in 1899. In 1932 the building was sold to the East Texas Cemetery Association for the sum of \$800, which amount is to be held in trust by the trustees of the Allentown Zion Church for the upkeep of the cemetery.

Fogelsville, Upper Macungie Township

A place of worship was secured in 1888. Information on the work of the church is lacking.

Millerstown, Lower Macungie Township

David Hoffman preached in this village as early as 1855. A class organized there was attached to Lehigh Circuit in 1874.

Seigersville, Heidelberg Township

This class, like most classes of this area, is first mentioned in 1874. The church building was refitted in 1885 at a cost of \$200. The organization was still active in 1912, but has since been discontinued.

Sipestown, Weissenburg Township

The building had been erected some time prior to 1896. It was sold in 1933 for the sum of \$400. Allentown quarterly conference was made responsible to use the income from this amount for upkeep of the cemetery.

Vera Cruz, Upper Milford Township

This class was taken from Bethlehem Circuit in 1881 and attached to Northampton Circuit.

10. The Churches of Northampton County

Cross Roads Church, Moore Township

The work of Cross Roads Church had its roots in the earlier organization at Chapman's Quarries Church. It had its origin in about the year 1870 when the Rev. Jacob Runk was traveling Bethlehem Circuit. One day while in the vicinity the Rev. Runk was accosted by a man whose name was Henry Slater. Mr. Slater, upon being assured that he was talking to a preacher, invited him to come to his house to hold services. A short time thereafter a revival was held at the Slater home. There was much opposition on the part of some citizens of the community to these revival efforts, and protection was sought of a peace officer who was a Roman Catholic. Among the converts during these meetings was this same officer of the law. Later he was elected superintendent of the Sunday School.

The Chapman's Quarries Church was erected in the year 1872. Among the class leaders at the old church were: Henry Boyer, Henry Slater, Harry Bash, William, Augustus, and Thomas Fehnel, Frank Lapp, Reuben Patterson, Alvin Heberling, and Ellen Heberling.

When, in 1904 it was found that the old church was in much needed repair, it was decided to erect a new building on another site. A new frame church building costing \$4,000 was completed during the conference year 1904-05, then said to be at Klecknersville, but later, and presently known as Cross Roads. The Rev. C.

O. Lehr was pastor at the time. In 1922 the building was repainted on the exterior, and the interior walls and furnishings were renovated at a cost of \$1,405. In 1933 during the ministry of Rev. H. M. Falstick a basement was constructed for use as class rooms, costing \$2,373. Also during his pastorate of six years, 1932-38, an Otterbein Brotherhood, a choir, a Junior Society of Christian Endeavor, and an Otterbein Guild were organized.

While the Rev. H. R. Blouch was pastor, the house of worship was again repainted and redecorated, this time at a cost of \$1,200. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached on the day of reopening, April 23, 1939. Former pastors and other visiting ministers preached during the week that followed.



Cross Roads Church



Point Phillips Church

Mrs. Ida Edelman Marsh, the first convert in the new church, is still a member. Members who have given long and faithful service in various offices are: Mr. and Mrs. George E. Fritz, Miss Ellen Heberling, Mrs. Anita Patterson Groner, and Reuben Patterson. Those in official positions at present are: Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Getz, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Flick, Mr. and Mrs. William Klepinger, A. A. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Fehnel, Kathryn E. Flick, and Mrs. T. G. Kostenbauder.

Chapman's Quarries Church was affiliated with the following circuits: Bethlehem, 1870-79; Northampton, 1879-87; Catasaqua, 1887-90; and Northampton, 1890-1904. The Cross Roads Church has been served by ministers preaching on the following circuits: Northampton, 1904-08; Allentown, 1908-12; and Northampton, 1912-25, and 1932-46. From 1925 to 1932 it was under Allentown Grace Church

quarterly conference, the ministers being: Irvin C. Wise, 1925-26; Irvin Butterweck, 1926-27; and Clinton Hahn, 1927-32.

Point Phillips, Salem's Church, Moore Township

While the Rev. J. R. Blecher was pastor of Northampton Circuit, a new class was organized in Moore Township about four miles northeast of Cross Roads Church. Josiah R. Miller, William H. Deemer, Conrad Reese, Daniel Schlegel, James Titus, and Cornelius Beers, were appointed trustees to erect a church. The inscription on the stone is: "Salems Kirche Der Vereingten Brüder in Christo—1883" (Salem's Church of the United Brethren in Christ). Work has been continued and the house of worship maintained in good repair.

The pastor, Herbert H. Bowers, reports at the close of the year 1945-46 a church membership of thirty, and a Sunday School average attendance of forty-six. There is an active Senior Society of Christian Endeavor and a Women's Missionary Society. The board of trustees presently serving are: Mrs. Jacob Deemer, Harvey Deemer, Franklin Scholl, Harold Kocher, and Clifford Graver. John Bartholomew has served as teacher of Young People's and adult classes and as general superintendent of the School. Harold Kocher is the present superintendent. He has served in that capacity for twelve years.

Since the time of organization of the class, the church has had the same circuit affiliations and pastoral supervision as Cross Roads Church.

11. Abandoned Classes of Northampton County

Bethlehem

The Rev. Henry Hilbish organized a class of twelve members in the city of Bethlehem in 1863. No individual items appear in conference proceedings concerning the class or church of this city. Bethlehem Circuit existed over three different periods as listed in an earlier paragraph of this chapter.

Catasauqua

A class was organized in Catasauqua in 1881 by M. N. Kelley. A church building was erected in 1886. The first building was destroyed by fire in 1891, after which a new building was erected costing \$2,200. In 1904 the managers of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society were authorized to take charge of the property, the congregation having been disbanded.

Nazareth

The Rev. I. B. Koons reported in 1900 that he had opened a new appointment in Nazareth. This is the only mention of work in that city.

Pennsville, Moore Township

In 1874, Pennsville appointment is mentioned. In the 1896 conference proceedings there is an item of repairs made on the church costing \$600. In 1928 annual conference ordered that the building be sold to the Pennsville Cemetery Association for the sum of twenty-five dollars.

Petersville, Lehigh Township. A class was in existence in 1874.

Siegfried's Allen Township

A class was organized in 1897. The Rev. I. B. Koons was pastor of the circuit. He organized the class and through his work a lot for a parsonage and church was bought. The parsonage was built in 1899 as a circuit parsonage. Information is lacking concerning the erection of a church and the disbanding of the class.

12. Bucks County Circuit

The East German Conference at its session in 1879 created a new charge called "Bucks County Mission." It was constituted of appointments at Quakertown, Hatfield, Coopersburg, Telford, and Irish Meetinghouse. The charge was left open to be supplied at time of meeting of conference. The statistical report made at the close of that conference year shows that W. N. Shelly was the supply preacher for the year. He reported having served four appointments, no classes organized and no members. In 1880 J. H. Unger was appointed. He reported at the end of the year having organized one class of twelve members. Efforts in Bucks County appear to have terminated in the year 1881 or 1882.

13. The Churches of Philadelphia

At the present time there are four United Brethren Churches in Philadelphia. Other efforts than those resulting in the establishing of these four are described in the next section of this chapter. There are a number of quite natural circumstances which prevented growth of our work. The movement of our people away from the more inland strongholds of our denomination was always westward rather than eastward. We did not have the men nor the means to gain a foothold through strictly missionary ventures when the city was small. When our members from upstate churches began to settle in this city, they scattered, so that no one strong nucleus could be established.

It was not that the brethren did not have the missionary passion to extend the cause of Christ in the city of Brotherly Love, for they made numerous and serious attempts to found congregations; but rather, they failed because the leaders were not supported, and because they themselves employed the wrong method. No better illustration of this could be given than that outlined by Dr. Lowery, when in 1898 he wrote as follows:

No better field for the home missionary effort of this church can be found anywhere than in Philadelphia. . . . I have brought this promising field to your notice in every report I have made to this body for the past five years, and yet again I cannot refrain from coming to you with the additional emphasis of a still deeper conviction that this is decidedly the best field open before the Church today, and surely you will not hesitate any longer to put into it, to the fullest extent, your financial and moral support. Brethren, it seems to me that it means the proper occupancy of this field now, or never. I say *proper* occupancy, for we have been there for years.

Hardly a year passed that Dr. Lowery did not emphatically state his opinion along the same lines. He further elucidated his understanding of "proper occupancy" in the following words:

This means the securing of a first-class location to start with, and then a first-class man (if you will allow me to make this distinction by classification just as an accommodation for this particular case) to be placed in pastoral charge of the work . . . to expend enough money to insure at once its permanency and inspire the community with confidence in our fixed purpose and ability to carry the mission forward to success.

This not only laid down the blue-prints for future procedure; it was by implication a setting forth of reasons why past efforts, with but one exception, ended in failure.

Mt. Pisgah, or First Church

A small band of members of the Fourth Street German Mission, because they worshipped in English, were no longer recognized by the East German Conference. These were received and properly organized as a class of East Pennsylvania Conference.³ After worshipping for a short time in a private dwelling at 2812 Leamey Street (now B Street) under the spiritual guidance of J. A. Nice and T. B. Miller, they secured, during the summer of 1882, a lot on the southeast corner of Kipp and Cambria Streets and erected thereon a frame chapel.

This section of the city was then in the development stage. Rows of two and three-story houses spread out in several directions, but for the most part the area consisted of small farms and brickyards. J. Frederick Snyder sold the lot to the small congregation. The mortgage of two thousand dollars was dated July 19, 1882. Through several successful evangelistic efforts the class was increased to fifty-four members by conference time of 1883. According to one account, the church was named Mt. Pisgah, due to this hopeful outlook.

John Spink, John McMillen and Daniel Keys were the first trustees. Joseph Kirk was the first superintendent in the frame building. James, his son, was organist and choir leader. T. B. Miller, an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a druggist, and medical doctor, remained as pastor of the congregation until conference session of the year 1885, then reporting a membership of seventy.

From 1888 to 1899 both congregation and annual conference wrestled with the problems of relocation and reconstruction. By 1898 the decision was reached not to locate on another street, and, on January 10, 1900, the contract was let to rebuild, on practically the same location. Contracts for buildings and furnishings called for an expenditure of \$11,500. The cornerstone was laid October 2, 1900. The brick structure was dedicated July 28, 1901, by Bishop



Philadelphia First Church

J. S. Mills, assisted by Dr. Lowery, presiding elder, and H. C. Phillips, who had been pastor since 1893.

The names of the following lay members constituted a partial list of the official board: Charles J. Leirer, Henry Price, John W. Crassley, S. C. Snoke, William H. Clouden, Jesse Dawson, Jennie M. Phillips, Lizzie Duffel, Helen H. Harris, Mrs. Ann Simons, Maggie Duff, James Grant, John Grant, Thomas Smith, and Ernest Kitchen. The property was then in the hands of a conference board of trustees consisting of D. D. Lowery, C. B. Rettew, H. C. Phillips, and S. C. Snoke. In 1908 the Conference Church Extension Society authorized transfer of title to property to the trustees of Mt. Pisgah Church, in trust for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. In 1913 conference changed the name of the church from Mt. Pisgah to First Church.

The dwelling at number 134 East Allegheny Avenue was purchased for use as a parsonage in February 1915 for the sum of four thousand dollars. The Rev. C. A. Funk, pastor, 1915-16, advocated that the congregation become self-supporting. It had been receiving financial help of some kind or another from annual conference since its founding. All incumbrances on church property having been paid, a mortgage-burning ceremony was conducted in July 1920 by the pastor, C. Y. Ulrich, assisted by Mrs. William Dawson and Mrs. Daniel McCoy, the two oldest living members of the church.

A two-manual Moller pipe organ, costing three thousand dollars

was installed on Easter, 1923. Improvements and installations made during the period, 1926-30, included placing an enlarged heating system, metal ceiling and walls in the Sunday School rooms on the main floor, accordian doors between the main Sunday School room and the Primary room, improving of the basement, laying new linoleum in the Sunday School room, and new carpet in the worship room.

Philadelphia First Church observed its Golden Jubilee Anniversary, April 12-24, 1932. Services were in charge of the pastor, the Rev. M. H. Wert; Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached the opening sermon; Dr. S. C. Enck, the closing sermon. At that time the official family consisted of Josiah Dawson, Harry R. Burkholder, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Bartholomew, Daniel Olsen Jr., Herbert Sellers, Mr. and Mrs. William Hatfield, George R. Wilby, Russel Wert, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Adamson, Robert P. Johnston, Carrie Heisler, Mrs. H. W. Slemmer, Mrs. M. H. Wert, Mrs. W. E. Kleppinger, Edith Mertz, Harry H. Wagner, Elizabeth Wilby, Adam Woltemote, and Edwin Sharp.

New members of the official board as of 1946, not above mentioned, are William Taylor, Charles W. Kester, D. G. Emenheiser, Mrs. Elva Wilby, Mrs. Bessie Taylor, Richard Rettew, and Mrs. Arthur Stewart. Mrs. Mary McCoy, the oldest charter member, has been active through many years in the work of the Sunday School, Women's Missionary Society, and Ladies' Aid. Many lay members have been sent forth as special workers in various Christian activities. Five men were licensed to preach by vote of this class, namely: C. E. Pilgrim, O. T. Ehrhart, G. A. Richie, William G. Grosz, and Richard Rettew. Josiah Dawson, Robert P. Johnston, and George R. Wilby, in these more recent years, have been lay representatives to annual conference.

The following brethren have been pastors: T. B. Miller, 1883-85; H. C. Phillips, 1885-86; H. D. Lehman, 1886-88; G. W. Miles Rigor, 1888-Feb. 1889; Z. A. Weidler, Feb. 1889-1890; J. R. Meredith, 1890-92; A. L. Shannon, J. F. Mower, 1892-93; H. C. Phillips, 1893-1902; A. K. Wier, 1902-03; J. T. Shaffer, 1903-06; D. E. Long, 1906-07; D. E. Long, J. Warren Kauffman, 1907-08; J. Warren Kauffman, 1908-10; J. A. Keiper, 1910-14; C. A. Snavelly, 1914-15; C. A. Funk, 1915-16; C. Y. Ulrich, 1916-29; C. Y. Ulrich, M. H. Wert, 1929-30; M. H. Wert, 1930-34; Earl E. Wolfe, 1934-41; and C. E. Rettew, 1941-46.

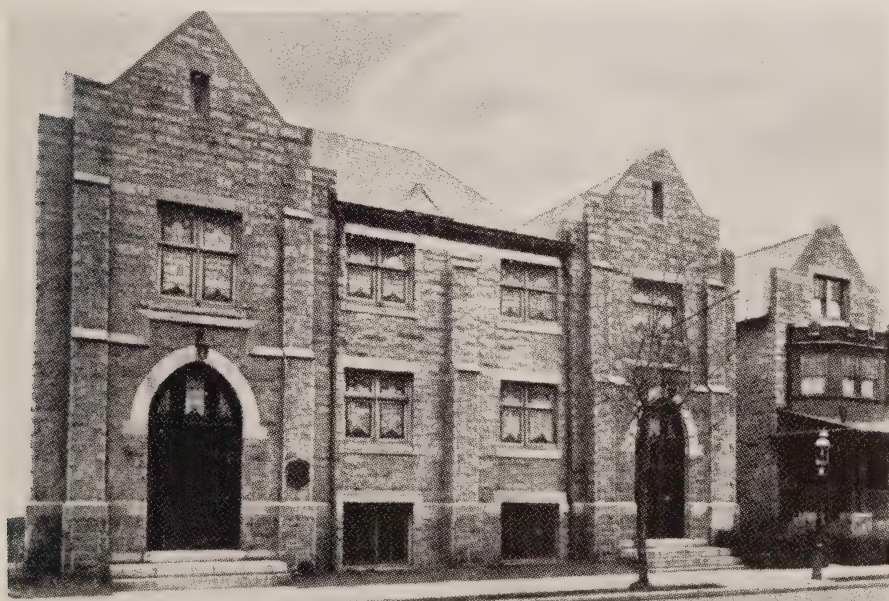
Second Church

Efforts to permanently establish a church in West Philadelphia took on a promising aspect in the fall of 1912. On the first day of conference sessions, October 2, a resolution was adopted which made this the exclusive conference financial project for the year, and empowered some person to canvass the conference area for funds. Dr. Enck, on the last day of the conference, was appointed to carry out the mandates of conference. That which ensued is best told in his own words:

Immediately after conference we moved to 402 South 57th Street. I well realized that the Master's service required haste. I at once renewed the survey and began to seek diligently for United Brethren families. At the same time I began to solicit money for the prospective new church, not knowing where such might be located. One beautiful moonlight night I walked to 59th and Catherine Streets. There were no houses between 58th and 59th Streets. Fifty-ninth Street was not yet fully opened, there was a brickyard at 59th and Cedar Streets. As I looked upon this site, I prayed, and said loudly, "O, Lord, let a church come down from heaven on this site." I called the members of the Conference Missionary and Extension Society, and the site was decided upon."

A charter class of fifty-three members was organized on Easter Sunday, March 23, 1913, at the minister's residence. The following officers were elected: trustees, Harry Friday, Ira Hooper, Jacob Behm, William May, Francis Bear, the latter wishing to be excused, George Haines was elected in his stead; class leader, the Rev. Mark G. Holtzman; treasurer, Park Kurtz; financial secretary, M. C. Spengler; Sunday School superintendent, Elwood S. Snyder; Women's Missionary Society president, Mrs. S. C. Enck; Ladies' Aid Society; Mrs. Clayton Latshaw, Mrs. Arthur Schlichter, Mrs. Jacob Behm, and Mrs. M. C. Spengler.

From June until August services were conducted in a large "Gospel Tent." In this, on June 8, a Sunday School of thirty-seven



Philadelphia Second Church

pupils was organized. The church lot on the northeast corner of Catherine and Fifty-ninth Streets, cost eight thousand dollars. It was seventy-two by one hundred and fifty-six and one-half feet. The cornerstone for the church plant, consisting of a Sunday School building with a large parsonage attached, was laid Sunday, June 1, by Dr. D. D. Lowery, conference superintendent, assisted by Dr. Enck. These buildings were dedicated November 2, 1913. The same brethren who laid the cornerstone also officiated at the dedicatory services. The Hon. A. S. Kreider of Annville, who had paid for the furnishing of the chairs and the pulpit furniture, spoke in the afternoon, and Dr. R. R. Butterwick in the evening. Harry Friday, Ira Hooper, Jacob Behm, M. C. Spengler, and H. J. Davidson were the building committee. The church plant cost \$51,169.41.

At the close of the first year's work, Dr. Enck reported a church membership of eighty-four and Sunday School enrollment numbering seventy-four, and a church plant about ready for dedication. On the strength of that progress, Dr. Enck invited the 1914 session of conference to meet at Philadelphia Second Church—the invitation was heartily accepted. At the end of his five-year pastorate when he was elected conference superintendent, the church membership had increased to 429.

Extensive repairs and improvements, partly necessary by a fire which broke out in the boiler room and spread to other parts of the building, were made in 1925-26. The damaged plaster was replaced, the floors scraped, and covered with new carpet; the pulpit and chancel surrounded by new cabinet work; and new lighting fixtures and pews were installed in the main room. A new Moller pipe organ costing six-thousand dollars was installed. The total expenditures over and above fire damage amounted to eighteen thousand and five hundred dollars.

Reopening services were held October 17, 1926, in charge of Dr. C. A. Lynch, pastor. Dr. Enck preached the sermon and dedicated the organ at the morning service. In the evening, the choir presented a musicale with Mr. J. W. Baird as director, and Mrs. Baird as organist. J. M. Blew, R. D. Dryson, Dr. Ralph L. Engle, and Jasper M. Brown composed the committee on improvements.

In January 1944, the pastor, Harold S. Peiffer, presented to the trustee board the necessity of making the appearance of the sanctuary more conducive to the beauty of worship. His suggestion was readily accepted. Subsequently the walls were redecorated, linoleum laid in the vestibule, and new carpet in the main room. A number of appropriate and chaste memorials were donated. Former pastors, Drs. Enck and Lynch participated in reopening ceremonies July 9, 1944.

The general superintendents of the School have been: Elwood S. Snyder, 1913-20; John B. McKelvey, 1920-33; and Foster N. Parker, 1933-46. Mr. McKelvey has been a very active lay leader in several capacities, having served approximately twenty-five years as lay representative to annual conference. He has also made valuable

contributions of service to various departments of interdenominational work under the Philadelphia Council of Churches. Jasper M. Brown has been trustee for twenty-five years, and George C. Stine treasurer for fifteen years. Other lay people now serving in official capacities are: Larrison B. Carhart, Jacob Funk, Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Hufford, Harvey Zimmerman, Russell Sloan, Harry M. Slack, Earl Morton II, Mrs. John B. McKelvey, Mrs. Carl Alford, Mrs. Pauline Kurtz, and Mrs. Hiram Vinton.

The list of pastors is as follows: S. C. Enck, 1912-17; N. L. Linebaugh, 1917-20; I. N. Seldomridge, 1920-23; G. A. Richie, 1923-25; C. A. Lynch, 1925-30; H. U. Roop, 1930-31; C. H. Stine, 1931-43; and H. S. Peiffer, 1943-46.

Third Church

The Logan district of North Philadelphia next engaged the attention of our conference leaders as a promising field in which to found another congregation. The "phenomenal success of our Second church," as the conference superintendent reported in 1915, spurred on the Conference Missionary and Church Erection Society to take decisive measures. The members of the Society carefully and conscientiously studied the possibilities, and recommended to the 1915-session of conference the purchase of a lot, 168 by 100 feet, located on Wyoming Street, between Twelfth and Camac Streets, for the sum of nineteen thousand and five hundred dollars. This recommendation, and the plan of financing the purchase of the ground, was accepted.

Permission had been granted to erect a tent on the above lot or lots for the purpose of holding services. The first service was held on the first Sunday of June, 1915. Services were continued in the tent during the summer months. The Rev. Charles A. Snively was appointed to the work in the fall of that year. He moved into the dwelling at 1220 Loudon Street, which house was also used as a place of worship for fourteen months. A church organization of thirty-six charter members was effected, January 9, 1916.

On the first Sunday of May 1916, ground was broken for a new Sunday School building. The cornerstone was laid Saturday, June 18, and the edifice, though still incomplete in all details, was consecrated by Bishop William M. Weekly, December 10, 1916. The total cost of lot and building was about fifty thousand dollars. The Conference Society pledged itself to provide twenty-five thousand dollars, and the official board of the church all above that amount. In addition to payments on property costs, the conference made appropriations toward pastor's salary over a period of years.

The membership numbered forty-eight in 1916. This number rose gradually until in 1924 it reached 140; and in 1946 stands at 195. The roll of official members of church organizations, and teachers for the year 1918 carries the following names: Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Snively, William T. Woods, Sarah Woods, Mrs. C. C. Bridge, Charles L. Bitzer, George Birch, Walter Frantz, Clarence C. Clay-



Philadelphia Third Church

ton, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Snoke, Dr. J. E. Blagg, Carl C. Hafer, Philip Nathans, C. F. Sloan, Ella A. Bitzer, Mrs. James Stailey, George Buch, John Hoover, Mary Haynie, Russell Clayton, Harold Snavelly, Rose Reddick, S. S. Blagg, and William Auchenbach.

Various residences were rented for occupancy by the pastor's family until 1919, when a brick parsonage was erected next to the church building on its south, at 4655 Camac Street. Some of the rooms on the first and second floors which remained unfinished when the church structure was erected were completed at a cost of four thousand and five hundred dollars. Dedication services were held on January 9, 1921, Dr. S. C. Enck performing consecration rites and preaching at the morning service, C. A. Snavelly, former pastor, preaching in the evening. Dr. D. E. Young, pastor, was in charge of the day's services. Under his ministry also, in the year 1925, the basement, consisting of a social hall and a well-equipped gymnasium, was completed, at a cost of \$12,495.88.

Fire of unknown origin damaged the church building on January 29, 1931. The damaged portions were repaired, the interior re-decorated, a practically new heating system and a new Moller pipe organ were installed, a new carpet, new art glass windows and new electric fixtures were placed—all at a cost of \$18,396.64. Bishop G. D. Batdorf preached on the morning of reopening, June 14, Dr. Enck preached in the evening. Dr. I. Moyer Hershey, pastor at the time, led the congregation in this work of new advances.

The Rev. Raymond G. Uhrich is now in the fourteenth year of

his ministry with this congregation. Among his lay co-workers in official positions are: John A. Steitz, Morris Lindermuth, George T. Birch, Gerald Stutzman, W. Y. Moritz, Mrs. T. A. Dintaman, Mrs. H. J. Paul, Mrs. I. E. Brandt, and Mrs. F. W. Heizman.

S. C. Snoke, who in his earlier years, was a lay leader in First Church, was one of the organizers of Third Church. He was its first Sunday School superintendent, was for a number of years, lay representative to annual conference, and has been president of the trustee board during the church's history. Other lay leaders have given long and faithful service: Carl C. Hafer as church treasurer and trustee; E. P. Runyan as Sunday School superintendent, lay delegate, and director of the Board of Christian Education; John Cantrill, as Sunday School superintendent and lay delegate; Miss Ella Bitzer, a charter member, as teacher, choir member, and president of the Women's Missionary Society; Mrs. R. O. Gulden, as secretary of the official board, member of the choir, and superintendent of the children's division of the Sunday School; Mrs. E. P. Runyan and Mrs. C. C. Bridge, as presidents of the Ladies' Aid Society; and Miss Sara Woods, deceased, as worker with the children of the church.

Ministers who have served the congregation are: C. A. Snavely, 1915-18; A. K. Wier, 1918-19; D. E. Young, 1919-26; I. Moyer Hershey, 1926-31; I. Moyer Hershey, M. B. Beerhalter, 1931-32; and R. G. Uhrich, 1932-46.

Burholme Church

The Rev. Charles Y. Ulrich while pastor of First Church sensed the opportunity of opening a mission in the Burholme section of Philadelphia. The work was begun in July 1924 in the house of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Clapp, 7311 Dorcas Street, members of First Church. In November of the same year the place of meeting was changed to a store property located at the corner of Dorcas and Cottman Streets.

Sanction for the launching of this new mission was given by the Conference Missionary and Church Erection Society, and it supported the project by granting a gift of three thousand dollars payable October 1, 1926. The trustees of First Church had secured a lot on the southwest corner of Algon Avenue and Cottman Streets for the sum of four thousand and five hundred dollars by deed of transfer dated June 15, 1926.

Edwin H. Castor, an architect, was superintendent of the Sunday School at the time the mission drew up plans and specifications for a small chapel. The cornerstone was laid November 6, 1927; and the chapel, costing eleven thousand and seven hundred dollars, was dedicated January 15, 1928 by Dr S. C. Enck. The pulpit desk was presented in memory of Mrs. Rebecca King by her four daughters, the pulpit Bible by John H. Nugent Jr. of Burholme.

The work was carried on by local members and workers under the supervision of the pastor and trustees of First Church until

Burholme Church

the fall of 1929, when William G. Grosz was appointed, who served the mission till the conference session of 1931. G. Jay Umberger was then appointed and served one year. The Rev. Ulrich again took charge of the work, serving part time until 1945, when he resigned so a minister who could give full time might be appointed. R. G. Becketl was appointed his successor. He reported a membership of ninety-one at the close of the year 1945-46.

James W. Hallam was the first lay delegate to represent the congregation at annual conference. That was in the year 1934. James Oates was lay delegate in 1935 and 1936. From 1937 to 1946 inclusively, Josiah Dawson has served in that capacity. Wilbur Clapp, James Oates, James Childs, James Hallam, August Dahling, and Waldo Roustle are the church trustees.

14. Abandoned Churches and Missions of Philadelphia

Clinton Street Mission

United Brethren work began in Philadelphia through the entreaty of a group of worshippers known as the American Primitive Methodist Church to be taken into the United Brethren Conference. A Discipline of our denomination had been secured by a Mr. Norcross of Philadelphia who, when on a business trip to Cincinnati, Ohio, attended a service in the United Brethren Church. Mr. Norcross was favorably impressed by the doctrines, rules and regulations set forth in the Discipline. He passed it around among his friends and it happened to fall into the hands of some of the members of the above named congregation. Soon thereafter they sent J. W. Bonewell, a local preacher serving them at the time, to the session of Pennsylvania Annual Conference held during March of the year 1847 at Hershey's Church, Middlesex, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.*

After hearing the statement of Mr. Bonewell, the conference resolved to send the Rev. George Miller, presiding elder, to visit the Philadelphia congregation, and invested him with discretionary authority to receive said congregation and minister. Mr. Bonewell continued with the congregation while the Rev. Miller made his investigation. In 1848 he was received, and ordained, by vote of Pennsylvania Conference, and appointed to the Philadelphia Mission. Subsequent pastors of the mission were: J. S. Kessler, 1854-55; J. E. Bishop, 1855-57; and George W. Showman, 1857-59. During the period covered by these pastorates the mission was under the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania Annual Conference.

East Pennsylvania gave its consent to this arrangement for the reason that it could not spare any of its preachers who used the English language fluently in preaching. The arrangement continued until 1859 when the property and the exercise of appointment of a minister were surrendered

to East Pennsylvania. This conference, however, had from time to time been giving financial support to the mission and its ministers. Each conference, separately, took action in 1858, that if the Philadelphia Church did not satisfy them by the next session as touching the matter of secret societies, no further support would be given. Neither conference sent a minister in 1859. The following year our conference gave the Philadelphia (English) Church matter into the hands of Bishop Glossbrenner to dispose of according to his judgment. We have no record of his or any other action taken in regard to the Church.

When the Rev. Kessler went to Philadelphia the congregation, consisting of thirty-one members, was in the process of erecting a small house of worship. Bishop Jacob Erb, assisted by the Rev. Alexander Owen and the pastor, dedicated it June 20, 1849. The structure was located on Clinton Street. A city map of the period shows a Clinton Street north of Brown Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets. Due to church debt, small salary, external opposition, internal troubles, and the stand then taken on secret societies, the ministers had a hard struggle. In spite of these difficulties, the Rev. Kessler, in 1851 reported having received 104 new members, and a total enrollment of 173. This rose to 280 by 1853. The Rev. Showman at the close of his last year reported a membership of 176.

First German Mission

A second congregation in Philadelphia made overtures to unite with the United Brethren. This was in 1859. The following item appears in the proceedings for that year: "In reference to the German congregation in Philadelphia, presenting itself to the notice of this conference; it was resolved, that the Stationing Committee supply said congregation with a preacher." The name of George Locker, not a member of conference, appears as the appointee in 1859 and 1860. He reported to annual conference in 1860 as having had fifty-two members at the beginning of the conference year and forty-one at the close. In the statistical report of 1861, his name only appears, no report was made. Nothing further is known about this mission.

Mt. Airy Church, Philadelphia

A mission was opened in the Mt. Airy area of Philadelphia by the Rev. Samuel L. Minnich under the auspices of Pennsylvania Conference. The Rev. Minnich was born at Chestnut Hill, near Philadelphia, in 1815. He became a member in 1854, was ordained in 1857, and served regularly in that conference until 1858. Being without appointment, he returned to Mt. Airy. In 1861 Pennsylvania conference took action to rent a church, made an appropriation of one hundred dollars, and assigned Rev. Minnich to the field. At the close of the year he reported having organized a class of twelve members at Mt. Airy and having preached also at Rittenhouse. He continued the work at Mt. Airy under appointment of Pennsylvania Conference until 1865. That conference made a total appropriation of five hundred dollars to the work.

In 1865 both pastor and class transferred to East Pennsylvania Conference. He continued as pastor until 1869. Those who followed the Rev. Minnich in that assignment were: J. R. Reitzel, 1869-71; J. F. Mower, 1871-73; H. V. Mohn, 1873-76; C. I. B. Brane, 1876-77; and J. Wesley Etter, 1877-79.

A house of worship was erected, and dedicated in the year 1873. In reporting the erection and dedication of the building, the presiding elder also stated there remained an embarrassing debt. Two years later the financial situation had become critical. A special conference committee dealing with the problem outlined an "excellent" plan to finance the debt, and appointed G. W. Miles Rigor to carry it into effect. The plan did not succeed, and in 1879 the property was sold. Conference had voted, over a period of fourteen years, direct appropriations amounting to \$3,250, had extended credit through loans, had secured the help of the Parent Missionary

Board of the denomination; individual members from upstate churches had made generous contributions, but nothing availed. The membership, at one time, numbered 126; when abandoned, only 34 remained.

Parrish Street Mission

While the Rev. S. L. Minnich was pastor at Mt. Airy, he organized, in 1868 a class of forty-four members which met in the vicinity of North Eighth and Parrish Streets. Conference recognized it at its session of 1869 and named it Parrish Street Mission Station. In 1872 the name Darien Street Mission appears; in 1874, Girard Avenue Mission. Mention of Eighth, Parrish, and Darien Streets, indicates that the location of this mission was within a block of the first Mission on Clinton Street.

This fourth venture in Philadelphia came to failure in the year 1875. S. L. Minnich had served three years, 1869-71 and 1872-73; C. T. Poulton, one year, 1871-72; Daniel Eberly as supply four months during 1873-74; and an unnamed preacher as supply, 1874-75, during the last year of its existence. The presiding elder reported that it was abandoned "for lack of means to carry it forward."

Fourth Street German Mission

The East German Conference which convened February 27, 1873, ordered the presiding elder and the missionary to be appointed to arrange for the renting of a suitable place of worship in Philadelphia and to report to the next session. The Rev. David Hoffman, a seasoned and successful organizer of missions, was sent to carry out the order of conference. Financially, he was supported by an appropriation of five hundred dollars. He did more than conference asked. He not only organized a class of nine members, but also erected a house of worship. Its location was on North Fourth Street above Norris Street; thus it was in the 1800 block north. The church building was dedicated February 16, 1874.

At the time of dedication \$1,113.71 had been collected on an expenditure of \$1,310.46. The Rev. Hoffman remained as pastor of this church until 1879, serving also as its treasurer.⁵ In 1874 conference set a goal of five-thousand dollars to be collected, and appointed David Strickler to canvass the people of the conference area for funds. It being the "Centennial Year," this was one of the mission projects that profited by payments made to the Centennial Fund. The pastors of the mission were: David Hoffman, 1873-79; J. G. Fritz, 1879-81; M. J. Heberly, 1881-83; Frederick List, 1883-84; and Job Light, 1884-86.

The mission had a net increase in membership from year to year until 1881, the congregation then numbering seventy-three. But the common plague "Old Monster Debt" beset its progress from then on. Its encumbrance then amounted to \$3,769.23. The membership began to decrease, thirty-four remaining when the work was abandoned in 1886.

Ebenezer Church

The stationing committee of East Pennsylvania Conference of 1876 had the following item in its report: "That the new work in South Philadelphia be recognized as Ebenezer charge." Daniel W. Fow was appointed to serve this charge in 1876 and 1877. A report of the work got into the record for one year only, 1877. It showed a membership at the beginning of the year of seventy-two, and at the close, forty-four. The pastor did not report a salary, but reported church expenses on a house of worship amounting to \$3,168. The minister's residence was given as 2615 Federal Street. He was not a member of Conference. In 1878 the presiding elder informed the conference that the work was abandoned because it was found that the congregation was almost hopelessly in debt.

Port Richmond, St. Paul's Church

Port Richmond Mission had its beginning in 1876 under the ministry of David Hoffman while he was pastor of the German Mission on Fourth Street.

THE CHURCHES OF PHILADELPHIA

Two years later this mission and the one at Camden, N. J. formed a charge. After another two years passed, it alone constituted a charge. It then had thirty-four members. Title to property valued at \$3,500 had been secured by 1882. The building was located at the corner of Edgemont and Westmoreland streets in the section of Philadelphia then known as Port Richmond, hence the name of the church. In succeeding years it was also known as St. Paul's Church.

The East German Conference turned the work over to the care of East Pennsylvania Conference in 1885. The latter conference did not then accept it; however, in 1889, it was definitely transferred to East Pennsylvania. It continued as a separate charge until 1894. The ministers appointed during the period were: Gottlieb Myer, 1880-81; W. H. Uhler, 1881-83; William A. Baier, 1883-84; H. S. Gabel, 1884-85; no pastor appointed, 1885-87; Frederick Reel, 1887-89; J. F. Mower, 1889-92; J. A. Lyter, 1892-93; H. B. Dohner, 1893-94. From 1894 to 1899 the congregation was served by H. C. Phillips in connection with his work at Mt. Pisgah Church; from 1899 to 1904, Thomas Whittle, a minister of the Methodist Church was its pastor, under the jurisdiction of Mt. Pisgah quarterly conference.

The annual conference supported the work during the period of its existence to the amount of approximately four thousand dollars. In 1904 the presiding elder Dr. Lowery, suggested that the property be sold, inasmuch as the few loyal members who remained were no longer able to continue the organization intact, and the location made it improbable that the congregation could be increased. At the elder's suggestion and by the interest of the Rev. J. T. Shaffer, pastor at Mt. Pisgah, most of the members were transferred to his church. Conference authorized sale of the property in 1906. In excess of four-hundred new members were received into church membership during the entire period of its history.

Jasper Street Mission

There was a brick chapel forty by fifty feet in size, located on the corner of Ann and Jasper Streets, known as Ann Street Gospel Mission, in charge of J. W. Taylor in 1882. The presiding elder in 1883 reported that he expected the congregation which worshipped there to come over to our denomination in the very near future. The language indicates that the congregation was not yet recognized as a United Brethren organization, nevertheless, its membership of twenty-five and Mr. Taylor's name are regularly included in the statistical report for the year. T. B. Miller served this congregation as supply, 1883-84. The appointing of the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor in 1884 is the last item appearing on record concerning this mission.

Grace Mission

Dr. E. W. Kirby, a physician and a local preacher, reports a new congregation, named "Grace" in 1885. He was appointed to serve the mission in 1885 and made a report to conference in 1886. There is no further record of this mission.

Fifth Street Mission

The only mention of this mission is in the boundary and in the stationing committees' reports of the year 1885. T. B. Miller was appointed. It may have been a continuing of the work on Jasper Street under another name.

Clearville Mission

The February session of the year 1889 lists "Clearville of West Philadelphia" with two churches of Camden, N. J., as one charge. No other instance of this mission appears in the annual minutes.

Elmwood

Information was brought to conference in 1890 that a certain Mr. Heath of Elmwood, Philadelphia, had made a proposition concerning property for a new mission building in Elmwood. The following year it was reported that the Rev. Rigor had gone to Elmwood and had laid the cornerstone for the structure. Certain presentations having been made at a quarterly being held at Mt. Pisgah Church, a trustee board was appointed with the understanding that they proceed cautiously with the work at Elmwood. Due to certain irregularities in procedure, the trustees were dismissed at the last quarterly held for the year. Evidently that was the end of the project at Elmwood.

West Philadelphia Class

In order to conserve to our denomination members moving into the different sections of the city, the Rev. H. C. Phillips organized two classes during the conference year 1896-97. One was located in West Philadelphia in a private residence on Forty-first Street below Girard Avenue. When the class disbanded in 1898 its small amount of equipment was turned over to the mission next named below.

Central Mission Station

This mission was the second class organized by the Rev. Phillips in 1896-97. Its first place of worship was the home of William E. Clark on the corner of Stiles and Thirteenth streets. Annual conference in 1898, by the urging of Dr. Lowery, presiding elder, made a sincere effort to become more firmly established in Philadelphia. It appointed E. O. Burtner to promote the work, and voted an appropriation of six hundred dollars. He found a class of twelve members, then went in search of a more suitable place for worship. He found an excellent church property for sale on Twelfth Street near Thompson, in the very heart of the city, and negotiated for its purchase for the sum of \$5,100. A deposit of six hundred dollars was made, the building was repaired, and re-opened for worship April 2, 1899. C. W. Hutzler was next appointed and a similar amount of money was appropriated. The last full-time pastorate was that of the Rev. J. Francis Smith. His year ended in 1901. He reported a membership of twenty. The work continued but one more year, this under the care of the Mt. Pisgah Church. The trustees were never able to secure a clear title to the property.

Haverford Avenue Class

The Rev. J. T. Shaffer, by special assignment during the interim of conference sessions organized a class of fifteen members in West Philadelphia during the year 1906-07. The meeting place was Gracey's Hall on the corner of Haverford Avenue and Fifty-second Street. He continued his labors in this section of the city until his death, August 6, 1909. He was born in Carrollton, Maryland, October 8, 1843, and gave about forty-three years to the ministry, serving important churches in Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania conferences. Having served Mt. Pisgah three years just prior to his work in the western part of the city, he was well acquainted with the opportunity for our church in the "City of Brotherly Love." He made many profitable contacts in West Philadelphia.

The Conference Church and Missionary Society bought a lot on the corner of Haverford Avenue and Pearl Street for the sum of \$4,200 on September 5, 1906. The matter of erecting a church building was kept under advisement until the said Society could be sure the right site was found. By 1912 the decision was reached not to build on the site purchased and, in the month of September, the lot was sold at its purchase price. Some of this class became charter members of the church known as Philadelphia Second.

15. Efforts in New Jersey

Camden, Emmanuel Mission

In the year 1876 the Rev. David Hoffman pastor of Fourth Street German Mission in Philadelphia, organized a class in Camden. In 1878 this class with two others were constituted Camden Mission and in 1880 it was constituted a separate charge. The following ministers served Camden Mission: George Stoll, 1878-79; Gottlieb Myer, 1879-80 and 1881-82; Frederick List, Feb. 1881-Oct. 1881; and 1882-83; D. D. Lowery, 1880-81; F. Marsfelter, H. E. Roediger, 1883-84; and J. H. Unger, 1884-85. The building was located on Line Street on lots numbered 410-412. It was probably a union meeting-house. Nothing appears on our records concerning this congregation after the year 1888.

Camden, Bethel Mission

Here is another instance where both minister and congregation came over to the United Brethren, en masse. The congregation had W. O. Shimp as their minister, and were worshipping in a rented chapel on Third Street. W. O. Shimp was appointed from 1883 to 1887. No appointments were made after February 1887, and, in September of that year, our conference leaders decided to abandon this work.

Vineland

Vineland, New Jersey; Wilmington, Delaware; and Greensboro, Maryland, in 1885 were considered to be inviting fields. The three points were constituted a charge in that year. There are no additional references to them except that, in 1886, W. H. Koppenhaver was to serve Greensboro Mission under the direction of the presiding elder.

Camden, Woodland Avenue Mission

A new mission was projected in Camden in September 1887. H. T. Denlinger of the class of 1887, Lebanon Valley College, was assigned to the work. A tabernacle was provided, and a village campmeeting was held with good results. The minister reported a class of twenty-five members. The Church Extension Society purchased, for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, a lot, sixty by one hundred feet, located on Woodland Avenue between Seventh and Eighth streets. The Rev. Denlinger was reappointed in 1888, but resigned during the year, and the Rev. Rigor of Mt. Pisgah Church took over. Under his leadership a new church building was erected on the lot purchased. Its cost was \$775, of which amount \$103 was paid and about forty dollars subscribed. The Rev. Rigor was appointed in February 1889. No appointment was made in the fall of that year. The class was soon thereafter abandoned and the property sold.

Abescom

In 1877, Abescom, New Jersey, was recognized as a charge. The presiding elder in 1888, reported that William Muir had tried to establish a church, but had no success in that undertaking.

Mt. Holly Mission

"We took hold of this work through the request of a number of people identified with another denomination. Services were held in the Court House in Mt. Holly, New Jersey. A private individual purchased a property on Washington Street and rented it to the class for its use. This building was remodeled so that two hundred people could be seated. The class numbered fifty-eight, the Sunday School enrollment was fifty-five. The work was carried on during the years 1915 and 1916."⁶

16. Churches Beyond the Present Conference Boundary

Certain churches located within Pennsylvania and Allegheny conferences, respectively, were once affiliated with East Pennsylvania or East German conferences. Inasmuch as they were regularly served by ministers of the two conferences whose histories we are recording, and were under the supervision of their presiding elders, the record of ministerial service is included in this volume. The local church histories are covered in the published histories of the two above first named conferences.

a. Churches in Baltimore, Maryland

Baltimore churches under the jurisdiction of East German Conference were: Old Otterbein, Fulton Avenue or Third, and Seventh.

Old Otterbein Church

Old Otterbein Church, by virtue of its charter of incorporation and church discipline, has exercised its right to choose its minister and to select the annual conference to which it would give its financial support. From 1871 to 1901 this congregation gave financial support to East German Conference. During these years such matters pertaining to a local church as are commonly recorded in annual conference proceedings are on record in the minutes of East German Conference.

The ministers serving this congregation over the period 1871-1901 were: Nehemiah Altman, 1871-73; Jacob Doerkson, 1873-77; J. W. Kunkel, 1877-81; August Krause, 1881-84; August Krause, then William Mittendorf, 1884-85; William Mittendorf, 1885-89; J. R. Blecher, 1889-93; and August Schmidt, 1893-1901.

Nehemiah Altman was converted from Judaism to Christianity in Ohio under the influence of Bishop Henry Kumler Sr. He was voted annual conference license by the original conference in the east in 1845, was ordained at the session held in Florin, Pennsylvania, in 1846, and at the same session was granted a transfer to Scioto Conference. He transferred to Pennsylvania Conference in 1853, to East Pennsylvania in 1873 and returned to Pennsylvania Conference in 1876. August Krause transferred to East German Conference in 1882, William Mittendorf in 1887. August Schmidt was a member of Ohio German Conference.

When East German Conference went out of existence in 1901, by order of General Conference, the Otterbein congregation affiliated with Ohio German Conference, with which it remained until 1918. German services were discontinued during the period of the First World War. Through the mediation of Professor William A. Weber of Bonebrake Theological Seminary, who had supplied the congregation during the summer of 1915, and who was well acquainted with the situation, P. B. Gible began a five-year pastorate at Old Otterbein in the fall of 1918. With his going to Baltimore, the church became affiliated with East Pennsylvania

Conference. After his term of service ended, the following brethren from the same conference served the congregation: Cawley H. Stine, 1923-31; J. W. Luckens, 1931-33; and Ezra H. Ranck, 1933-34. From that year forward the congregation has looked to Pennsylvania Conference for its pastors.

Fulton Avenue

Fulton Avenue, or Baltimore Third Church, was also affiliated with East German Conference from 1871 to 1901. This congregation evidently also wanted German-speaking brethren to serve it. But by what authority it exercised such choice for the years 1871 to 1881 is not evident. In 1881, however, General Conference, in fixing the boundary of East German Conference, legislated that "Otterbein and Third Churches, with any exclusively German missions that may open in the city of Baltimore" shall be a part of said conference.

Strange as it may seem, Carl Schneider, a member of Ohio German Conference, was its pastor, 1871-73, while at the same time the church was under the jurisdiction of East German Conference. Following are the pastors of Fulton Avenue Church appointed by East German Conference: Nehemiah Altman, 1873-75; J. W. Kunkel, 1875-77; Jacob Doerkson, 1877-81; Job Light, 1881-85; Frederick List, 1885-89; F. H. Ruloff, 1889-90; Jacob Doerkson, 1890-91; Jacob P. Smith, 1891-96; and J. M. Walters, 1896-1901.

Seventh Church

In 1889 Frederick List was appointed to open a new German mission in Baltimore to be known as Seventh Church. He labored until 1892, and then reported a membership of seventeen. H. D. Duennebier was appointed in 1892, and George Stoll in 1893. There is no record of this mission on conference minutes after 1894.

b. Ministerial Appointments to Pennsylvania Conference Churches, 1882-85

During the period 1882 to 1885 when Pennsylvania and East Pennsylvania conferences met in joint session, some ministerial members of East Pennsylvania Conference served churches in Pennsylvania Conference. In order that the record of these brethren may be given fully, their names, the churches they served, and the terms of service follow.

I. H. Albright: Mt. Wolf, 1882-85; York First, 1885-86— P. A. Bowman: Boiling Springs, 1884-86— H. B. Dohner: York Second, 1882-84— Thomas Garland: New Cumberland, 1883-85; Mt. Wolf, 1885-86— S. R. Gipple: Dover, 1884-86— A. H. Kauffman: Yocumtown, 1885-86— D. D. Lowery: Baltimore Fifth Street, 1882-83; Big Spring, 1883-84— J. R. Meredith: York First, 1882-85— H. V. Mohn: Baltimore George Street, 1884-85— Z. C. Mower: Manchester, 1885-86— G. W. Miles Rigor: Baltimore Scott Street, 1883-84— Isaiah W. Sneath: Baltimore Salem, 1884-86— and Z. A. Weidler: Baltimore Sixth, 1882-83.

c. Churches of Union, Center, Snyder, and Juniata Counties

The second group of churches formerly affiliated with East Pennsylvania, then later with East German Conference, were located in Union, Center, Snyder, and Juniata counties. This was part of Allegheny Conference territory since 1839. Many Pennsylvania Germans had settled in that region, which accounts for the fact that the classes formed there sought the service of ministers who used the German language.

John Stamm preached on Millheim Circuit during the conference year 1848-49. At the close of the year he brought with him to conference a request from the brethren of the circuit that East Pennsylvania Conference appoint a preacher to their circuit. Conference decided to send them a preacher, and at the same time passed a resolution to the effect that the delegates who would be elected to represent the conference at the General Conference of 1849 should make an effort to have the area, including Millheim Circuit and from it extending eastward to the Susquehanna, attached to East Pennsylvania Conference. The General session took action favorable to the request of the delegates. In 1870 the churches of the area went into the organization of East German Conference.

The circuits which were formed and the years of their continuance are as follows: Millheim (1), 1848-66; Union County, 1850-62; West Branch, 1852-66; Susquehanna, 1854-1901; Middleburg (1), 1862-72; Freeburg (1), 1873-74; Middleburg (2), 1874-86; Freeburg (2), 1879-88; Millheim (2), 1881-85; New Berlin, 1886-87; Middleburg (3), 1887-1901; Freeburg (3), 1892-1901.

The ministers appointed to the circuits and their years of service follow.

Freeburg Circuit (1), 1873-74: Amos Graul, 1873-74.

Freeburg Circuit (2), 1879-88: H. W. Zimmerman, 1879-81; R. S. Arndt, 1881-82; Newton Shannon, J. Goodling, 1882-83; William Lamey, 1883-84; J. W. Boughter, 1884-85; William A. Baier, 1885-86; C. A. Mutch, 1886-87; J. A. Lyter, John A. Yarkers, 1887-88.

Freeburg Circuit (3), 1892-1901: C. W. Raver, 1892-93; O. G. Romig, 1893-99; H. M. Trautman, 1899-1901.

Middleburg Circuit (1), 1862-73: G. W. Hoffman, 1862-64; J. H. Lowery, 1864-65; Jacob Runk, 1865-67; Frederick List, 1867-68; B. M. Shade, 1868-69; and S. V. Mohn, 1869-70; Wm. S. Dissinger, 1870-71; Amos Graul, 1871-72; and J. P. Miller, 1872-73.

Middleburg Circuit (2), 1874-86: William Lamey, 1874-75; Joseph Weirich, 1875-78; P. L. Hains, 1878-79; George Shindler, 1879-80; Uriah Gambler, 1880-81; Christopher Miller, 1881-82; J. W. Boughter, 1882-84; William A. Baier, 1884-85; J. A. Keiper, Wesley Dietrich, 1885-86.

Middleburg Circuit (3), 1887-1901: M. B. Spayd, 1887-88; John A. Yarkers, 1888-89; C. O. Lehr, 1889-92; Frederick List, 1892-93; S. B. Wengert, 1893-94; A. G. Nye, 1894-95; D. D. Buddinger, 1895-97; S. B. Boughter, 1897-98; and W. H. Boyer, 1898-1901.

Millheim Circuit (1), 1848-66: John Stamm, 1848-50; L. W. Craumer, 1850-52; Samuel Seiders, Jacob Doerkson, 1852-53; H. W. Landis, 1853-55; J. G. Fritz, 1855-57; D. M. Kauffman, 1857-58; Henry Loose, 1858-59; G. A. Mark Jr., 1859-61; Rudolph Light, 1861-62; H. E. Hackman, 1862-64; Frederick List, 1864-65; and John K. Moyer, 1865-66.

Millheim Circuit (2), 1881-85: Newton Shannon, 1881-82; S. G. Herrold, 1882-84; William Lamey, C. W. Raver, 1884-85.

New Berlin Circuit, 1886-87: M. B. Spayd, 1886-87.

Susquehanna Circuit, 1854-1901: George Smith, 1854-55; Simon Noll, 1855-57; John Stamm, 1857-59; Henry Loose, Lewis Fleisher, 1859-60; Simon Zimmerman, 1860-61; David Moyer, 1861-63; Jacob Brewer, 1863-65; Amos F. Yeager, 1865-67; John Binkley, 1867-69; J. G. Clair, J. F. Mower, 1869-70; J. H. Mark, S. R. Gipple, 1870-72; Amos Graul, George Shindler, 1872-73; Jeremiah P. Smith, Amos F. Yeager, 1873-74; Amos F. Yeager, 1874-75; J. Francis Smith, 1875-78; W. H. Uhler, 1878-79; J. W. Boughter, 1879-Feb. 1881; Uriah Gambler, Feb. 1881-82; Amos Lehman, 1882-84; H. W. Zimmerman, 1884-87; C. A. Mutch, 1887-89; M. B. Spayd, B. F. Goodman, 1889-90; B. F. Goodman, 1890-92; I. B. Koons, 1892-93; C. O. Lehr, 1893-95; C. E. Boughter, 1895-96; William Lamey, 1896-98; and J. E. Francis, 1898-1901.

Union County Circuit, 1850-62: Eusebius Hershey, 1850-51; Eusebius Hershey, H. E. Hackman, 1851-52; L. W. Craumer, 1852-53; L. W. Craumer, Jacob Doerkson, 1853-54; L. W. Craumer, 1854-55; Jacob Doerkson, 1855-57; J. B. Daugherty, 1857-58; D. M. Kauffman, Henry Hilbish, 1858-59; Simon Zimmerman, Christian Kauffman, 1859-60; C. J. Burket, Christian Kauffman, 1860-61; and Henry Hilbish, Joseph F. Light, 1861-62.

West Branch Circuit, 1852-66: Daniel Henninger, 1852-53; Samuel Seiders, 1853-55; Eusebius Hershey, 1855-56; Amos F. Yeager, 1856-58; Wesley Dietrich, 1858-60; Amos F. Yeager, 1860-62; David Moyer, Amos S. Miller, 1862-63; and Amos S. Miller, 1863-66.

Classes which had church buildings are as follows:

In Juniata County: Richfield, Monroe Township; Salem's, Susquehanna Township; and St. Paul's Union, Delaware Township.

In Snyder County: Dreese's, Washington Township; Freeburg, in the village of the same name; Fremont, Perry Township; Independence, Chapman Township; Middleburg, in the town of Middleburg; Paradise, Chapman Township; Port Treverton in the village of the same name; Trinity, at McKees Half Falls; Zion's, Center Township; and Zion's, Union Township.

In Union County: New Berlin, in the town of New Berlin.

Classes without church houses, scattered throughout three counties were: Swengelsville, West Lewisburg, Troxelville, and Bowersox. This by no means exhausts the list of preaching appointments during the more than half century that our preachers labored in

this area. Only those churches and classes are listed above which remained at the close of the period we are covering. There must have been many others which never got into the conference record, as, for example, the private diary of the Rev. L. W. Craumer would indicate. From it we learn that during the first year of his ministry on Millheim Circuit, 1850-51, he served sixteen regular appointments and twenty-one scattered appointments.

East Pennsylvania Conference held two annual sessions in this part of its territory—at Millheim in 1858 and at McKees Half Falls in 1862.

Conference ministers who were natives of this area were: Henry E. Hackman, Peter L. Hains, Peter Swartz, John K. Snyder, and William A. Wilt. The Rev. Wilt's biography appears in another chapter of this volume. Peter Swartz, converted under Christian Newcomer's influence, was first licensed in 1811. John K. Snyder began his ministry in Allegheny Conference in 1851. He transferred to East German Conference in 1873.

The Rev. Henry E. Hackman, a product of Millheim Circuit, was born in Miles Township, Center County, September 15, 1824. He was voted annual license in 1851, and was ordained in 1856. He gave twenty-six years of active service on the following charges: Halifax Circuit, Annville Church, Lebanon Circuit, Millheim Circuit, Lykens Circuit, Mt. Joy Circuit, Highspire Circuit, Myerstown Church, and Valley View Circuit.

The Rev. Peter L. Hains was born near McKees Half Falls on October 10, 1847. It is quite a coincidence that he was converted on his birthday, at the age of twenty-one. In order to prepare more fully for his high calling he attended Lebanon Valley College for a time. He served charges in Snyder, Dauphin, Schuylkill, Lebanon, Lehigh, and Northumberland counties.

NOTES

1. From a sketch by Bishop G. D. Batdorf in "*Historical Souvenir of Reading Churches*," C. I. B. Brane, compiler.
2. See M. L. Montgomery; "*History of Berks County*," pp. 1177-79, which give an authentic account of the Weidman family. In it is the statement that Beneville B. Weidman (son of Solomon) was born September 5, 1833, in Brecknock Township, and, when an infant, removed with his parents to Spring Township.
3. From the report of Ezekiel Light, presiding elder, *Conference Minutes*, 1883, p. 11.
4. Kephart, I. L., Editor: "*Life of Jacob S. Kessler*," pp. 130-131; 139-178; and 184-189.
5. The Rev. Hoffman kept an itemized account of money received and expended, in a small ledger which is in the custody of the conference historian. This faded booklet, three and one-half inches by five and one-half inches in size is one of those priceless treasures which are the delight of the researcher. Except for it, the location of the church, the time of dedication, and other valuable information would never have come to light. It is of extreme interest to notice who among the lay and the ministerial members of the conference area were minded to give of their means toward a home mission enterprise.
6. An abstract from a report made by the Rev. N. L. Linebaugh, to whom the author is much indebted for information submitted on the work in Philadelphia and New Jersey.

Chapter X

DISTINCTIVE SERVICES PERFORMED

1. In Annual Conference Supervision

The brethren who performed the supervisory work of conference districts were at first called "Overseers." In 1814, for the first time, the title, "Presiding Elder" appears in conference proceedings.¹ For some years following, and until the Allegheny Conference area was detached from the Original Conference, there were as many as four presiding elders in a single year.² When East Pennsylvania was organized, two presiding elders were elected to oversee its work. Later the number was increased to three. While East Pennsylvania and East German conferences existed contemporaneously, there were years when the combined area had five presiding elders. East Pennsylvania finally, in 1891, elected but one presiding elder. East German Conference adopted a similar policy in 1898. After the two conferences had been merged, two presiding elders were elected, over a period of four years. From 1904 to the present there has been but one presiding elder district. The name of the office was changed to "Conference Superintendent" in the year 1908. The services of some who held these offices have already been recorded; those of others, who had long and distinguished careers, follow.

Enck—Schuyler Colfax Enck, son of David S. and Sarah Yost Enck, was born at Hopeland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, July 3, 1868. At the age of nineteen he received quarterly conference license and entered Lebanon Valley College. From the time of receiving this license until the time our record for this volume closes covers fifty-nine years: of which six years were given to preparation for the ministry and to student pastorates, twenty-six years in full-time pastorates, twenty-five years as conference superintendent, and four years as conference superintendent emeritus. It is impossible to confine to a few paragraphs the life-story of a man who has served his church so long and so well. Only some of the most significant services can be recited herein.

In his fourth annual report to conference as its superintendent, Dr. Enck states: "I was engaged every Sunday but one, during the year; preached 105 sermons; conducted 170 conferences; attended forty-one special committee or board meetings; conducted nine funerals; delivered seventy-five addresses; traveled by automobile 2,715 miles, by trolley 2,168 miles, by railroad 13,413 miles, total, 18,296 miles; sent out by mail 900 letters and cards." This is a fair example of one year's work in relation to his conference and to the denomination in general, which relationships covered a quarter of a century.

During his administration eighty quarterly conference licenses

were granted, fifty-eight ministers were admitted to annual conference membership, and fifty-six were ordained to elder's orders. He was a member of and chairman of most of the boards and committees set up by annual conference, was editor of the Conference Herald, trustee of Lebanon Valley College, president of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Board, and spiritual director of three campmeetings.

East Pennsylvania Conference elected him as one of its representatives to nine General Conferences; first, to the session of 1901, then successively to those held over the period 1917 to 1945 inclusive. He, with all others elected to serve as delegates in the 1945 session, was a member of the 1946 special session and of the merging conference held the same year. He was a member of the following general church boards: Administration; Bonebrake Seminary; Sunday School, Brotherhood, and Young People's Work; Evangelism; Ministerial Pensions and Annuity; Quincy Orphanage and Home; The Otterbein Press; and the Commission on Church Merger. He also served on a number of committees created by General Conference.

The Rev. Enck was admitted to annual conference in the year 1888, was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1891, from Bonebrake Seminary in 1893, and was ordained in the latter year. He served Ruhl's Church two years and supplied Pottstown charge for part of a year during student days. Manheim-Ruhl's charge, 1893-98; Columbia Church, 1898-1912; and Philadelphia Second Church, 1912-17, were his full-time pastorates. In 1906 he completed work at Lebanon Valley for the Master of Arts degree, and in 1910 his Alma Mater honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

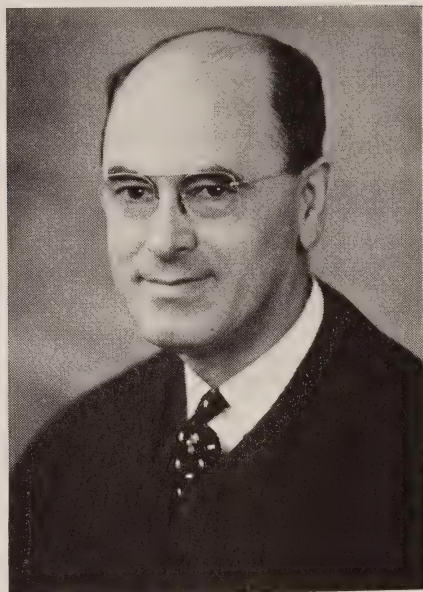
While pastor at Columbia, Dr. Enck took a four months' tour through Palestine, Egypt, Asia Minor, and Europe. In 1936, Dr. and Mrs. Enck, and Bishop and Mrs. Batdorf traveled around the globe, visiting our mission fields in Japan, China, the Philippines, and numerous other points of interest in many countries.

This record of activities and accomplishments speaks for itself. Extended comments would be appropriate and well deserved, but we must refrain from doing so. It is very evident that Dr. Enck gave himself without reserve to the denomination he loves so much. He always stood in great favor with the members and friends of his parishes. He was eminently successful in house to house evangelism. His sermons are practical, pointed, and inspiring. As conference superintendent he was a great leader. He insisted that the preacher stick to his charge and that lay people support their preacher in every way. Thus he succeeded to a large degree in disabusing the minds of both preachers and laymen that there ought to be a change every two or three years.

Because of his wise counsel and long years of experience, he was known throughout the denomination as the "dean of conference superintendents," his term in that office exceeding in time



Schuyler C. Enck



David E. Young

that of any other superintendent in the denomination. As conference superintendent emeritus since 1942, this servant of God continues active in a number of church-controlled organizations and in filling numerous speaking engagements.

Young—David Edward Young, superintendent of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference since 1942, was born in Manheim, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1892, the son of A. Benton and Sarah C. Hongendobler Young. He is a graduate of the following educational institutions: Manheim High School, 1910; Lebanon Valley College, 1915; Bonebrake Theological Seminary, 1917; and University of Pennsylvania (M.A.), 1928. Lebanon Valley conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1929. He received quarterly conference license by recommendation of Salem Church, Manheim, in 1910; and was admitted to annual conference in 1912.

The Rev. Young served Jonestown Circuit, 1910-14, while a student in college. While attending Bonebrake Seminary, he supplied the church at Nappanee, Indiana, during the summer of 1917. In the fall of that year he was ordained at Butler, Indiana, and appointed to the church at South Bend, where he remained two years. He then returned to work in his home conference, served Philadelphia Third Church, seven years; and Harrisburg Sixth Street Church, sixteen years.

The parishes served by Dr. Young had large increases in membership and financial strength during his ministry. His wide experiences in Visitation Evangelism in various centers throughout the country in association with Dr. A. Earl Kernahan were of great

asset to him in his several local campaigns. In Harrisburg, he was chairman of the 1931 Gypsy Smith Evangelistic Campaign for Greater Harrisburg and Vicinity. He was an excellent organizer and promoter of Christian Education and of Missions in the local church. His fellow ministers elected him president of denominational and interdenominational city-ministerial associations.

In the annual conference, Dr. Young served as assistant secretary from 1917 to 1942, as chairman of the committee on Bonebrake Seminary, as a member of the Fourth Year Study Course Committee, as a member of the Publication Board. He has been a trustee of Lebanon Valley College since 1925. Since the time of election to the superintendency, he has been a member of the faculty and the executive committee of said institution, editor of the Conference Herald, general director of Christian Education, and a member of and chairman of most of the committees and boards of the annual conference organization. In General Conference circles, Dr. Young is a familiar figure. He has been representing East Pennsylvania as delegate since 1937, is now a member of the Ministerial Pensions and Annuity Plan, of the Board of Christian Education; and of the Board of Administration, currently serving as its recording secretary. In all of his relationships, his brethren hold him in high regard and are giving him hearty cooperation.

Baltzell—The ministry of Isaiah Baltzell was of a varied nature. He was born in Thurmont, Frederick County, Maryland, Nov. 26, 1832. At the age of twenty-two he was licensed by Virginia Conference, and served churches in Buchanan, Churchville, Winchester, Virginia; and Frederick and Baltimore, Maryland. In 1862 he transferred to Pennsylvania conference, by which he was appointed to Orrstown, and Shopp's. While a member of that conference he served New Holland circuit, 1866-67 and Mountville circuit, 1870-72, in East Pennsylvania. In 1872 he transferred to this conference—in which he performed the following services: first, as pastor: at Mountville circuit, 1872-73; Highspire Circuit, 1873-74; Harrisburg First, 1880-83, Reading Otterbein, 1889-92, Pottstown, 1892-93; and second, as presiding elder, 1874-80 and 1883-89. During the year 1878-79, he was General Sunday School Missionary of the conference. The Rev. Baltzell composed and published numerous Church and Sunday School hymns. East Pennsylvania conference elected him as delegate to the General Conferences of 1877, 1881, and 1889. He died while pastor of the Pottstown charge, Jan. 16, 1893.

Craumer—Lewis Wentz Craumer was born in Manheim Township, York County, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1827. He was converted at the age of eighteen and joined the United Brethren Church on Littlestown circuit. His first license was granted him at Jefferson, York Circuit. In 1850 he was granted license by East Pennsylvania Conference, and was ordained in 1853. He served as Junior preacher on Pinegrove Circuit in 1849-50. Then followed pastorates on Millheim and on Union County Circuits. In 1855 he went to Dayton, Ohio, and founded a German Church in that city.

During his stay there he edited the *Froeliche Botschafter* for three months. After a two year's stay at Dayton, of which he wrote: "I am not at home here, too much penned-up," he served as pastor at Circleville two years. After returning to East Pennsylvania he had pastorates at Pinegrove, Annville, Myerstown, Sinking Spring, Lebanon West, and Reading Otterbein. His period in the presiding eldership in the East German conference was from 1878 to 1882. One year he was financial agent for Reading Zion church, and one year for Lebanon Valley College. He represented East German conference in the General sessions of 1881 and 1885, and was a member of the Commission on Revision of the Confession of Faith.

Daugherty—Joseph B. Daugherty gave five years to the presiding eldership; one year, 1869-70 in East Pennsylvania, and four years in East German, 1870-71 and 1884-87. From 1856 to 1869 he served, in the order named, the following charges: Hummelstown Circuit, Union County Circuit, Amity Circuit, Highspire Circuit, Lancaster Circuit, Lebanon Salem Church, and Schuylkill Haven Church. Following the first period of his work as presiding elder he was pastor of Bethlehem Mission, Allentown Zion, Union Deposit Circuit, and Grantville Circuit. After the second period of supervisory work he was appointed to Oberlin, and to Lebanon Circuit. The Rev. Daugherty was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, December 18, 1826, and died near Lebanon, May 9, 1899. He began preaching at the age of twenty-one. He preached fluently in both English and German. From 1871 to 1888 he was a member of East German conference, otherwise his connection was with East Pennsylvania.

Dohner—Hiram B. Dohner, son of Peter and Elizabeth Dohner, was born in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County, December 28, 1847. Educationally, he prepared to be a school teacher, which profession he followed eight years in a proficient manner. Having entered Lebanon Valley College in 1875, he pursued the scientific course, and graduated with the class of 1878. During his active ministry he completed a course in the Chautauqua School of Theology, securing the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, and later received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from his Alma Mater. He also was a graduate of the Boston Correspondence School, the Chautauqua Normal School, and had completed the State Sunday School course. Because of these preparations his conference selected him to be conference instructor and supervisor of the Sunday School Normal Course for the years 1886-1888. From 1895 to 1897, he was solicitor for the Seminary at Dayton, Ohio, and from 1897 to 1901, field agent for Lebanon Valley College. From 1888 to 1893, he was presiding elder of his conference, becoming in 1891, the first to hold the office singly, since 1800. His pastoral charges were: Jacksonville and Schuylkill Haven Circuits, York Second Church, Mountville (Lancaster Co.), Philadelphia St. Paul's Church, Reading Memorial Church, and Landingville Circuit. On these charges he served a total of fourteen years. He was successful in every field of his endeavor. He spent a year in mak-

ing a tour around the world. He was congenial in fellowship, optimistic in temperament, and "fervent in spirit serving the Lord."

Gelbach—Henry H. Gelbach was born in Lancaster County, May 23, 1825. Early in his life his parents moved to Lebanon County. He was converted in his seventeenth year, joined the United Brethren Church, and soon thereafter was granted quarterly conference license at a session of Lebanon Circuit held at Jonestown. He was granted annual conference license in 1854. His active ministerial career began as junior preacher on Bellegrove Circuit in 1866, where he served one year. On November 20, 1866, he was commissioned Recorder of Deeds of Lebanon County, which office he held three years. He was ordained in 1869. In 1870 he became a member of East German conference. The Rev. Gelbach was pastor of Lebanon Salem Church three years, beginning with 1869. He served seven and one-half years as presiding elder, as follows: 1872-74, 1878-83; and the last half of the year 1883-84, completing the unexpired term of David Hoffman, deceased. Conference in 1883, had appointed him to Avon Circuit, which he resigned to do the work of the presiding elder. He served Lebanon Circuit 1874-77, Union Deposit, 1877-78. On account of failing health he was necessitated to cease active work in 1884. He died July 8, 1886.

Graul—Amos Graul was elected six successive times to the presiding eldership of East German conference. He was born in the city of Reading on October 31, 1831, and joined Zion Church at the age of twenty-two. He was a blacksmith by trade, then later engaged in the mercantile business. Brother Graul was very active in Zion Church as a layman. In 1870, East German conference appointed him Sunday School Missionary, and in that capacity he traveled over the conference territory to promote the Sunday School work. Having been granted annual license in 1871, he subsequently served nine conference charges until first elected presiding elder. After the years in the eldership, he again went into the active pastorate, in which he continued, missing but one year, until his death at Pinegrove, December 5, 1902. While not having the advantages of an extensive literary culture, yet he possessed excellent natural talents, which he improved by private reading and study. He ranked as an effective preacher in both the English and German languages, and possessed excellent social qualities.

Hoffman—David Hoffman became a member of East Pennsylvania conference in 1847 and was ordained in 1851. His first preaching by conference appointment was as junior preacher on Lebanon Circuit in 1850. Then followed appointment to the following charges: Dauphin Circuit, Reading Zion, Amity Circuit, Pinegrove Circuit, Lebanon Salem, Myerstown, Schuylkill Haven, Bethlehem Mission Circuit, and Allentown Zion.

He was presiding elder in said conference two years, 1861-63. In 1870 he elected to go into the East German conference, newly formed. In it he served Lehigh Circuit, Philadelphia German Mission, and Reading Zion, and had two terms in the office of pre-

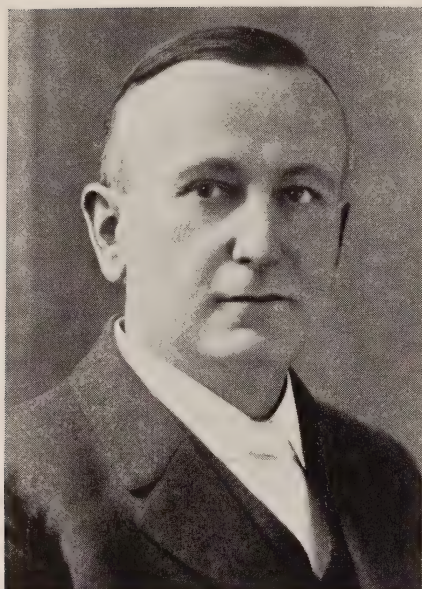
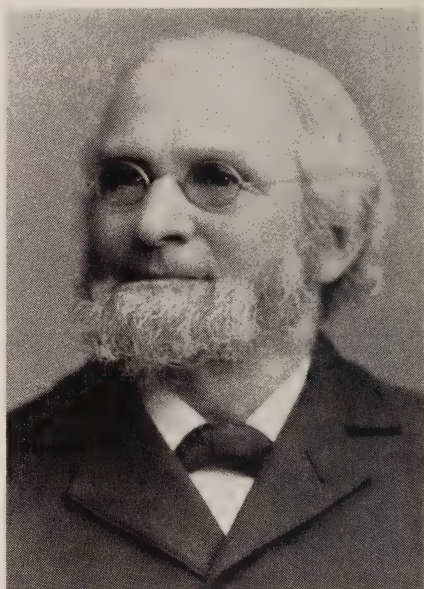
siding elder, 1871-73 and 1881 to Feb. 1884. He served a total of six and one-half years in that office. Death claimed him Feb. 5, 1884, at the age of sixty years, eight months, and seventeen days. The Rev. Hoffman opened a number of new missions in Schuylkill, Lehigh, and Northampton counties. He was a capable and esteemed leader.

Lowery—Daniel DeWitt Lowery was born at Annville, Pennsylvania, April 11, 1860. His father, John H. Lowery, joined East Pennsylvania Annual Conference in 1856, was an itinerant minister for many years, and remained a member of conference until his death in 1908. The son, Daniel, became a member of the United Brethren Church when eight years of age. From early youth he felt called to the gospel ministry. He received quarterly conference license at the age of sixteen and was voted annual license in 1879. In 1881 he transferred to Pennsylvania Conference, and in that year was ordained. In 1886 he came back to East Pennsylvania Conference. In preparation for his life work he attended courses at Lebanon Valley College, which institution honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity in the year 1906. He served the following charges: Tamaqua; Camden Mission; West Fairview; Baltimore, George Street Church; Big Spring Circuit; Manheim; Mt. Joy; Annville; and Harrisburg, Derry Street Church. This ministry began in February, 1879 and concluded October 11, 1893. At the session of conference of the latter year he was elected presiding elder, in which capacity he served (conference superintendent from 1908 onward) until death, May 29, 1917.

During his term as presiding elder, East German and East Pennsylvania annual conferences were united by action of General Conference. Each of these conferences had sometime previously adopted the practice of having but one presiding elder. In order to bridge over the period of transition, the united conference went back to the earlier practice of electing two presiding elders. This continued nearly four years, until Dr. H. S. Gabel was elected Church Erection Secretary. At the ensuing session, annual conference reverted to its previous practice of having but one presiding elder, which practice it has continued with success and efficiency to the present.

Dr. Lowery held tenaciously to the accepted doctrines of the Christian faith and to the traditions and government of the denomination he served so well. He approached whatever problems arose with candor and directness and reached conclusions decisively. "He had a keen, analytical mind, and logical power of the highest order. He was an ideal conference superintendent and his equal is hard to find. He was fair and strictly impartial, always looking toward the interests of the charge and the man appointed. His life is an example of success and usefulness."³

Mark—George Adam Mark Jr., the son of John A. Mark and Christiana Runkle, was born in Lebanon County, February 8, 1825. His father was converted under the influence of the Methodists and joined their church, probably at Union Church, Bellegrove,

**Daniel D. Lowery****Martin J. Mumma**

North Annville Township. In 1840 he opened his house to the United Brethren German preachers, and the following year he received annual license by vote of our conference. He was ordained in 1848. His appointive service by conference was limited to two years on Myerstown Circuit, 1852-54.

George Adam Mark Jr. was licensed in 1852 and ordained in 1855. He had six years of service on circuits; one year at Annville Station; six years as presiding elder, two years as agent for Lebanon Valley College, and one year as steward of the college. The Rev. Mark Jr. had a great concern for young people and deeply sensed the need of advanced Christian education for youth. He was one of the founders of the college at Annville and supported it liberally.

Mumma—Martin J. Mumma was born near Highspire. An orphan at the age of three years, he had to make his own way in the world. He served his country as a soldier in the Civil War. The Highspire Class recommended him for quarterly license in 1869. He received annual license in 1870, and was ordained in 1872. He served the following conference charges: Annville Church; New Holland Circuit, Reading Otterbein, Mountville Church (Lancaster Co.), Lancaster Covenant, Harrisburg Circuit, Hummelstown Church, Elverson Circuit, Jacksonville Circuit, Ephrata Church, and Schuylkill Haven Church. At two different periods he was financial agent for Lebanon Valley College. He had two terms as presiding elder, 1878-81 and 1889-91. As a preacher he was strong, logical, and forceful. So direct was his presentation that some thought him blunt and harsh. He stood for the sure defense of the gospel and the trustworthy faith of the church fathers.

Noll—Simon Noll had a great passion for souls. It was this characteristic rather than his reputation as a great preacher that caused him to be greatly esteemed. In his nearly forty-three years of active service he received 1748 members into church membership. His work was nearly all on large circuits. He began preaching on Dauphin Circuit in 1842 and ended on Swatara Circuit in 1885. He served Dauphin Circuit during two periods; Lebanon Circuit, two periods; Union Deposit, two periods; and Pinegrove Circuit, three periods. He was appointed also to Berks County Circuit; Lancaster Circuit; Reading Zion, Highspire, Susquehanna Circuit; Sinking Spring Circuit; Lykens Circuit; Bellegrove Circuit; Lehigh Circuit; Myerstown; Valley View Circuit; Avon Circuit; Jonestown Circuit and Swatara Circuit. In 1857 he was selected to be soliciting agent for Reading Zion Church debt, but upon resignation of Henry Schropp who had been elected presiding elder, the Bishop appointed him in Schropp's place.

Brother Noll was born near Annville May 2, 1817, and died while living in retirement at Annville, November 8, 1899. His name is well remembered and highly revered to this day.

Peters—Lewis Peters was born near New Holland, Pennsylvania, July 12, 1836. His parents being poor, he was obliged to hire out with the farmers in the vicinity of his home. He was converted in the sixteenth year of his age, and received quarterly conference license at the age of twenty-one. While working at the carpenter trade he gave all spare time possible to study in order that he might prepare for the ministry. East Pennsylvania Annual Conference voted him license in 1859 and elder's orders in 1862. His active ministry began by serving the Lancaster Mission Church on East Chestnut Street in 1858. Subsequently, and until 1871, he preached on Amity, Columbia, Hummelstown, and Lancaster Circuits, and at Otterbein Church, Reading. The Rev. Peters was elected presiding elder at the age of 35. He continued in that office four years. From 1875 to 1880, he was pastor of Steelton, Lebanon Trinity, and Harrisburg First churches, respectively. He had three additional years, 1880-83, in presiding eldership. He had a second pastorate at Steelton, the years 1886-89. Next he served Pottstown, and then, in October, 1892, he was appointed to New Holland charge, on which work he died March 8, 1893. He had represented his conference at three quadrennial sessions of the General Conference.

Rigor—Of the ministers who had extended service in our conference, the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor was the first, after Father Otterbein, to have the advantage of academic training. Even so, he did not complete his college course. For it was while he was a student at Mt. Pleasant college, in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, that he was induced to take work in Allegheny conference. This educational advantage is registered at several points in his rather versatile career.

His father and grandfather were of the state of Virginia; the latter was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, a member of Light

Horse Harry Lee's cavalry, and was with Washington at Valley Forge during that winter of great suffering. Miles, as he was familiarly known, was born September 22, 1831, near Scottdale, Pennsylvania, grew up inured to the work upon his father's farm. In 1850 he was converted and joined the United Brethren Church. In 1852 he was licensed by the old Mt. Pleasant congregation of Abraham Troxel fame. He was licensed by Allegheny Conference in 1854 and in it served churches at Altoona, Tyrone, Johnstown, Springfield, Liverpool, and Perrysville.

By the earnest solicitation of Bishop Markwood he transferred to East Pennsylvania in 1862. The charges served by him were: Northumberland Circuit, Columbia Church, Lebanon Trinity Church, Harrisburg First Church, Highspire Circuit; Baltimore Scott Street, Philadelphia First Church, Camden, New Jersey, Pottstown Circuit, Halifax Circuit, Royalton, Elverson Circuit, and Coatesville, the total being twenty-seven years. His terms as presiding elder were: 1872-75; 1876-79; and 1885-88. The first year of the last term was but a partial year, he being appointed to complete the work of Ezekiel Light, who resigned to take up the work of editing our German literature. He served twenty-five years as recording secretary of East Pennsylvania Conference, and rendered similar service in Allegheny Conference three years. He was joint editor with Ezekiel Light of the *United Brethren Tribune*, and later was editor of the *Weekly Itinerant*. Three times he represented his conference as delegate to General Conference. For three years he was Conference Evangelist. He was one of the principal promoters of Lebanon Valley College, securing its first president, the Rev. Thomas R. Vickroy, was one of its first trustees, and served on its faculty, and later was its financial agent.

Roop—Father Jacob Roop, born March 1, 1782, reached the ripe old age of ninety-three years, nine months, and one day. He was born on the Roop homestead north of Highspire and resided there except for a few years during which he preached on circuits far removed from his home. He was well acquainted with the church fathers of the denomination. He was converted under the ministry of John Neidig in the year 1814. Though being powerfully moved to preach, he persistently refused to obey the call until on an occasion he heard Bishop Kumler Sr. preach from the words: "The Master is come and calleth for thee."

The seal to his call was a great revival held by him at John Shoop's house near Shiremanstown in 1819. John Shopp Jr. rode to Neidig's home to secure him to preach, but not finding him at home, he went to Jacob Roop's residence and engaged Mr. Roop. In one night five sons, three daughters, and some neighbors of John Shopp Sr. and wife found the Lord.

His first license, signed by Christian Newcomer, was granted at a quarterly conference held in Cumberland County in 1820. In 1833 he was ordained an elder and began his itinerant ministry which included Dauphin Circuit (three terms), Lancaster, Lebanon,

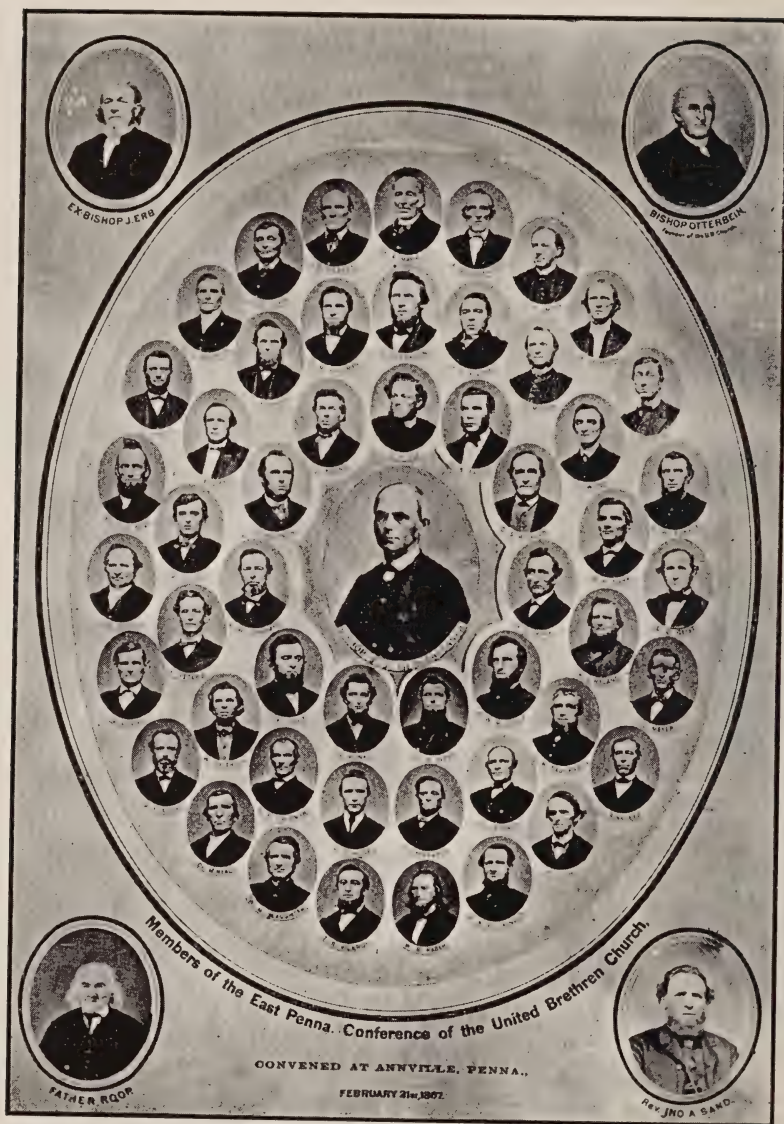
Halifax, Myerstown, Pinegrove, and Hummelstown circuits east of the Susquehanna. One year, 1847-48, he served as presiding elder of the Lebanon district. His work as a minister was by no means confined to the above conference assignments. At various times when not under conference appointment, he preached in Maryland, in Ohio, and at many points in his native state.

His works followed him—particularly in the lay service of his sons, Jacob and Christian, his grandson, Henry J. Roop, and his great grandchildren, among whom are Dr. H. U. Roop, Mrs. Walter G. Clippinger, and Mrs. Benjamin Daugherty. He dearly loved his spiritual brethren. Until within two years of his death he invariably wrote encouraging letters to annual conference.

Runk—Jacob Runk was born at Elizabethville, Dauphin County, July 20, 1835, and died at Berrysburg, same county, at the age of eighty years, one month, and nineteen days. When but a lad, his parents moved to Powell's Valley, where he spent his boyhood days assisting his father, Philip, in clearing and farming the land. He was converted at the age of fourteen, was elected class leader at the age of sixteen, received quarterly license at the age of nineteen, and annual license at the age of twenty-one. At that age he was appointed Junior pastor to Lebanon Circuit. Brother Runk served a total of twenty-eight years on the following charges: Lebanon, Hummelstown, Sinking Spring, and Middletown Circuits; Reading Zion Church; Bethlehem Circuit; Lebanon Salem Church; Jacksonville, Williams Valley, Lykens, and Grantville Circuits; Allentown Zion Church, Ebenezer Church (Lebanon County), Avon Church, Lebanon West, and Lebanon Pleasant Hill. He had a second term at Lebanon Salem for two years, 1899-1901. During the first term of this pastorate, his son, Irvin E., who became a member of the Conference in 1896 and was ordained in 1899, was his associate. A daughter, Cora, married the Rev. Charles A. Mutch.

The Rev. Runk was elected eight times to the office of presiding elder by East German conference—the terms were 1874-78, and 1887-91. Four times he represented said conference at General Conference sessions. He was a gifted pastor and a trusted leader.

Sand—John Adam Sand was born in Alsace, France, July 1, 1812. He came into the United Brethren fold through the Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore. He arrived in America in 1833, and sometime within the next two years was converted in the parsonage of said congregation. The annual conference of 1841 voted him license and appointed him to Lancaster Circuit, with Henry Stabley as his assistant. Subsequently, he was appointed to Dauphin, Halifax, Lebanon, and Pinegrove Circuits; and Lebanon Salem Church. He was presiding elder of the Susquehanna District 1851-53. Following this he had another year on Lebanon Circuit. In 1854 he transferred to Ohio German conference where he retained his membership until 1866 when he transferred to Pennsylvania conference. He was pastor of the Cincinnati German Church when the General Conference of 1857 was held there. His mother congregation, Old Otterbein,



Members of the East Penna. Conference of the United Brethren Church

Convened at Annville, Penna.
February 21st, 1867

Upper left-hand corner, Ex-Bishop J. Erb; Upper right-hand corner, Bishop Otterbein (Founder of the U. B. Church; Lower left-hand corner, Father Roop; Lower right-hand corner, Rev. Jno. A. Sand.

Center, Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner.

Ministers on Conference Picture

Outer Circle, beginning at top, and following around circle, clockwise: G. A. Mark Sr., A. Steigerwalt, J. P. Smith, H. Schropp, J. Brewer, J. W. Kunkel, C. G. Geist, J. Meyer, J. Binkley, R. Light, D. E. Flickinger, (Mem. Miami Conf.), W. B. Raber (Penna. Conf.), T. R. Vickroy, W. M. Slaughter (Parkersburg Conf.), Dr. McNeil (Va. Conf.), J. F. Light, J. Lowery, S. Noll, W. S. H. Keys, J. Yingst, S. A. Minnich, J. G. Clair, G. Gilbert.

Middle Circle, beginning at top: J. Doerkson, A. F. Yeager, D. Moyer, G. Wiest, J. H. Mark, P. J. Riland, J. B. Daugherty, H. Gelbach, I. Carpenter, J. Schoop, H. E. Hackman, W. Dietrich, L. Peters, J. Light, F. List, I. L. Kephart, D. M. Kauffman.

Inner Circle, beginning at top: G. A. Lee, D. S. Early, D. Strickler, G. A. Mark Jr., G. W. M. Rigor, W. B. Evers (East Des Moines Conf.), J. Runk, E. Light, L. W. Craumer, D. Hoffman, J. Young.

(Nineteen Members of Conference, 1867, Missing)

called him to be its pastor in 1860. He served the congregation seven years, then Fulton Avenue in the same city, three years. In the year East German conference was organized, he was appointed to Allentown Zion Church, and remained two years. He was pastor of George Street Chapel, Baltimore, three years. He died in Baltimore September 15, 1880. He made a strong contribution to the work in the three conferences of which he was a member through his ardent evangelism.

Schropp—Henry Schropp served five years in the presiding eldership, being elected 1854, 1860, 1861, 1871, and 1873. His ministry began as assistant to Christian S. Crider at Lebanon Salem in 1846. He had seventeen years as pastor of the following charges: Lebanon Salem (Junior preacher), Halifax Circuit, Berks County Circuit, Lebanon Salem, Myerstown, Lebanon Circuit, Annville Church, Bellegrove Circuit, Mountville (Lancaster County), Jonestown Circuit, Bellegrove Circuit, Union Deposit Circuit, and Allentown Zion. He had been elected presiding elder in 1857, but resigned to accept the pastorate of Old Otterbein Church in Maryland, where he remained three years. Brother Schropp was born near Pinegrove March 7, 1811. In his thirtieth year he was converted at a meeting held in a schoolhouse at Pinegrove by Samuel Enterline. He was a widely known and most highly esteemed minister. He had a well-trained mind, was an excellent Bible student, and an extraordinarily strong expounder of the Word. His last years were spent in a superannuated relationship at his home on North Eleventh Street, Lebanon.

Shoop—From the time of receiving quarterly license in 1863 to the time of departure covered a span of seventy years in the ministerial life of James Shoop. That distinction is unmatched in the annals of our conference. He was born October 17, 1840, a son of George and Rachel Shoop, in Jackson Township, Dauphin County, and passed on at Elizabethtown in the same county at the age of ninety-three years, seven months, and eight days. He was converted at the age of twenty and joined the United Brethren Church. In 1867 he was received into annual conference membership and

appointed to his first charge—Valley View (then Germanville) Circuit. The list of charges he served is as follows: Valley View Circuit (three terms); Sinking Spring Circuit; Pinegrove Circuit, Lebanon Salem Church, Williams Valley Circuit, Allentown Zion Church, Avon Circuit and Jacksonville Circuit.

His brethren elected him ten times to serve the conference as presiding elder, the terms being 1882-87 and 1889-94. He was one of the last of ministers who could use the German language with ease and impressiveness. The citizens of Elizabethville and the brethren throughout the conference held him in high esteem. He was the last surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic in his community.

Strickler—David Strickler was elected presiding elder in the years 1858, 1859, 1862, 1863, and 1864. He had a brief career as actual pastor, serving Harrisburg Front Street Church, 1856-57; Lancaster Circuit, 1857-58; English preacher Lebanon Salem, 1860-61; and Lancaster Mission, 1861-62; English preacher at Annville, 1869-70; and Halifax Circuit, 1881-82; Baltimore Scott Street, 1882-83. Brother Strickler was born near Mt. Joy, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, May 11, 1814. His younger years were spent in teaching school. From 1847 to 1851 he edited our German paper—*The Busy Martha*, forerunner of the *Froelicher Botschafter*. He joined East Pennsylvania conference in 1854, was ordained in 1857, went into the organization of East German Conference in 1870, and transferred to East Pennsylvania in 1881. From 1857 to and including 1862, he was English secretary for the conference. During the years when he was not regularly employed, he resided at Palmyra, then later at Lebanon. Locally, he took particular interest in Sunday School work.

Uhler—William H. Uhler was born on a farm near Lebanon, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1837. His parents, David and Julia Uhler, later moved to a farm near Pinegrove. He was converted in 1855, and received quarterly conference license the following year. For a period of twenty years he gave himself to local work in several of the classes on Pinegrove Circuit as church trustee, and as promoter of Sunday School work. He taught school several terms with efficiency. In 1876 he joined annual conference and began active service under its appointment. Pinegrove, Susquehanna, Avon, and Lehigh Circuits, Port Richmond Mission, Shamokin First, Lebanon Memorial, and Allentown Zion, were the charges he served from 1876 to 1891. Beginning with 1891 he was elected seven successive terms as district presiding elder in East German Conference. From 1898 to 1901 he was pastor of Reading Trinity, then of Williamstown. He served one term in the State Legislature as a representative from Schuylkill County. He was an independent thinker; had deep convictions and clung to them usually with great tenacity. He was most liberal in his benevolence, even to a fault, and did much to strengthen the church wherever he labored.

2. Representative Laymen

General Conference of the year 1877 authorized that annual conferences could decide, by a two-thirds vote, to adopt a plan for election of lay delegates to the annual conference sessions. Both East Pennsylvania and East German conferences exercised that prerogative in 1878, and the succeeding year lay delegates were seated in each. This provision remained optional until the general session made it mandatory in 1889. In this same year General Conference authorized the election of lay delegates by annual conferences to be seated in the general session of 1893.

It is somewhat difficult to realize that so long a time had elapsed before laymen had a voice in the high councils of our denomination. One can readily see, however, that lay representation has been a tremendously stimulating factor in the progress of our churches and institutions. The names of many lay men and lay women are upon the pages of this volume. The individual contributions made by some have already been recorded. Much more could have been written concerning a number of them, and if space had permitted, numerous others might have received mention.

There follow brief and concise statements having to do with the careers of those who may be said to be representative of the lay constituency of more recent years.

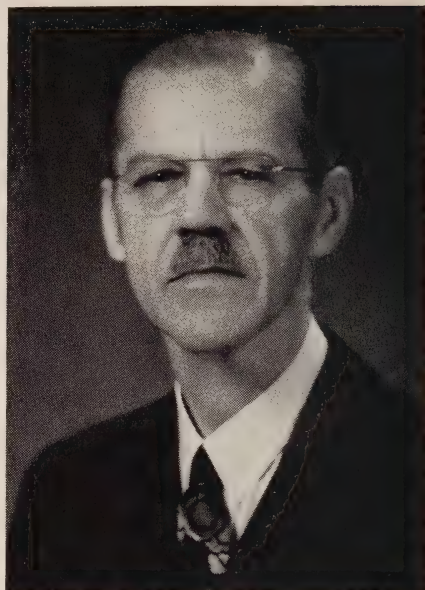
Baish—Henry Houston Baish, lately a resident of the city of Harrisburg, was one of the outstanding laymen of the United Brethren Church. His most important contribution to the denomination was in preparing and promoting our Ministerial Pension and Annuity Plan. The responsibility of preparing the plan was delegated to him in 1917. This plan was adopted, with slight modifications, by the General Conference of 1921. He was then selected its manager, which duty he performed without remuneration. He gave much time and energy in "selling" the plan and in stirring the denomination to raise one million dollars to provide the general church's share in it. In this effort Dr. Baish had the benefit of experience in a similar effort—that of establishing the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Retirement System, which also he headed until his retirement in 1944.

Mr. Baish had a career as an educator. He was a graduate of Shippensburg Normal School, 1895, and of Lebanon Valley College, 1901 (A.B.), and 1904 (A.M.). He took graduate work at Harvard and at the University of Pennsylvania. He was granted the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Lebanon Valley in 1929. He taught in the public schools of Altoona eleven years, and was superintendent of the schools of the same city, 1908-17.

Allegheny Conference elected him lay delegate to the 1917 session of General Conference; East Pennsylvania elected him to quadrennial sessions five times, 1925-1941. He was a member of the General Board of Education and of the Board of Administration. In the local church at Sixth Street, Harrisburg, he was a member



Milton O. Billow



E. W. Coble

of the trustee board, teacher of the Men's Bible Class, and lay representative to annual conference twenty-two years. For many years he was a trustee of Lebanon Valley College. In the college and the conference, he had important assignments on a number of committees. Dr. Baish was born at Aspers, Adams County, Pennsylvania, February 11, 1874, and died at Harrisburg, August 5, 1945.

Billow—Milton Oscar Billow was born in Shermansdale, Perry County, Pennsylvania. After attending country school he went to Shippensburg State Normal School and was graduated in 1902. He taught school in Falmouth, Lancaster County, and Middletown, Dauphin County, before entering Lebanon Valley College in September 1904 where he was graduated with the class of 1908. His Master's Degree was received from Lehigh University in 1921.

After spending four years as a District Sales Manager and in the Advertising business, he taught in the High School at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, succeeding V. O. Weidler, late Bishop of the Church. In 1915 he became a teacher in Central High School at Harrisburg, and was transferred to the Technical High School in 1918. In 1922 he became Head Teacher for part of Cenral High School in the William Penn Building, and has taught American History in the William Penn High School from 1926 to his retirement in 1949.

In 1920 Mr. Billow organized the Masterleaf Record Book Company for the manufacture of teacher's record books; and was Manager and Treasurer of the Corporation until February 1950. He is

a member of Sixth Street Church, Harrisburg, where he has been teacher of the Men's Bible Class for thirty years. He is a member of the Committee on Publication of the Conference History.

Coble—E. W. Coble represented East Pennsylvania Conference as lay delegate to General Conference of 1941 and 1945, and the uniting conference of 1946. He is a member of Lancaster Covenant Church, in which he was the general superintendent of the Sunday School eighteen years. He serves as trustee since 1930 and church treasurer since 1936. Prior to moving to Lancaster in 1907, he was a member of West Fairview Church in Pennsylvania Conference. He attended West Fairview High School and Shippensburg Normal School. For six years he taught school in his native town. In the West Fairview Church he was active in numerous official capacities.

In the annual conference, Mr. Coble serves on the Finance Committee, the Council of Administration; and by said conference has been elected a trustee of Lebanon Valley College. He is a member of the Committee on Publication of the Conference History. He is owner of Coble's Tire Service, on Fulton Street, Lancaster, a concern which does a large volume of business in sales and reconditioning of rubber tires. He is a member of the boards of trustees of the Lancaster Y. M. C. A., and the Water Street Rescue Mission, respectively.

Engle—Samuel F. Engle was born in Dauphin County, February 23, 1858. In 1890 he moved to Palmyra and established a general mercantile trade which grew to considerable proportions. He with others organized the Lebanon Valley Trust Company in 1903. He served as president of the board of directors from the time of the instituting of the company until his death, February 12, 1916. From 1885 onward he took a leading part in the work of First Church, Palmyra, actively engaged, as Sunday School superintendent, church trustee, choir leader; and in many other phases of work.

In annual conference circles, Mr. Engle played an important role. The quarterly conferences, first of the circuit, then of the local church, elected him lay delegate from 1890 to 1915. The first annual session he attended elected him a trustee of Lebanon Valley College, an assignment he held as long as he lived. From 1904 onward he was treasurer of all conference funds. He gave many years of exacting service to the work of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society. He represented his conference at the sessions of General Conference of the years 1909 and 1913.

John Raymond Engle, son of Samuel F. and Agnes Balsbaugh Engle, was born March 13, 1885 in Londonderry Township, Lebanon County. At the age of ten he became a member of Palmyra First Church. In the local church he was leader of the choir, instructor of Teacher Training Classes, teacher of a Bible Class, and member of the trustee board. He was a graduate of Yale University, 1906, and of the Law School of the University of Virginia, 1908, and had conferred upon him in 1925 the degree of Doctor of Laws by Leb-



J. Raymond Engle



Park H. Fegley

anon Valley College. He was an attorney at law, first in Huntington, West Virginia, then at Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He served as director of the Valley Trust Company and as its solicitor.

Dr. Engle, upon the death of his renowned father, became active in the capacities of conference treasurer, member of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society, member of the Finance Committee, member of the Conference Publication Board, and trustee of the Bishop's parsonage at Harrisburg. In more recent years, he devoted most of his time to the interests of Lebanon Valley College, serving as president of the trustee board, chairman of the 1924 endowment campaign, and as investment officer of the Endowment Fund. He was acting president of the College from May to November 1932. He represented his conference at seven quadrennial sessions, beginning with 1917 and ending with 1941. That body elected him to serve on the Commission of Church Union and Federation, trustee of Bonebrake Seminary, member of the Board of Administration, and member of the Ministerial Pension and Annuity Plan. He conceived the financial plan by which Bonebrake Seminary was freed of debt. He died of a malignant disease, April 9, 1942.

Fegley—Park H. Fegley, one of a large number of active and consecrated young laymen of the conference, was born in Lykens, Dauphin County, August 31, 1906. He was a son of Daniel H. and Salome Lehman Fegley, whose eight children have been a blessing to the church in many ways—one son, D. LeRoy, is a minister of this conference, and two daughters are wives of ministers: Matilda

the wife of the Rev. DeWitt P. Zuse, treasurer of Pennsylvania Conference, and Olive the wife of the Rev. Hiram S. Kiefer of East Pennsylvania.

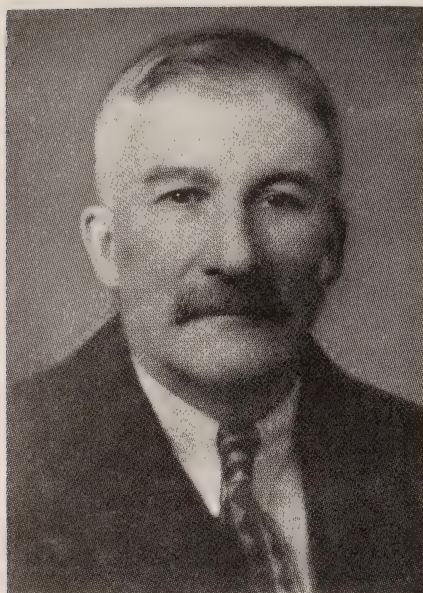
While quite a young man he began distinctive work in the Lykens Church, serving during about twenty-five years, respectively as Sunday School superintendent, class leader, secretary of the board of trustees, chairman of the board of Christian Education, and member of the choir. He represented his church as lay delegate to annual conference, which elected him to the trusteeship of Lebanon Valley College, and to membership of the Conference Missionary and Church Extension Society. For some years he was director of recreation at the Mt. Gretna Summer Assembly. He was chairman of the Dauphin County Boy Scout Council, and a vice president of the County Council of Christian Education.

In civic life he was Clerk of the Dauphin County Courts since 1938. In June 1946 he was elected vice-chairman of the Dauphin County Republican Committee. He represented his conference at General Conference sessions of the years 1941 and 1945. This very useful and talented young man passed on to his eternal reward at the age of thirty-nine years, eleven months, and three days.

Garber—Roy K. Garber serving as conference treasurer since April 1942, is a member of Salome Church, Columbia, in which he has official membership on the board of trustees, is church treasurer, and for some years was general Sunday School superintendent. He has represented his church as lay delegate to annual conference for the past twenty-five years. He is a member of the Conference Board of Christian Education since its organization in 1930, and for eight years was its treasurer. Other official duties in annual conference are in connection with the Publication Board, Finance Committee, and trustee of the Bishop's Parsonage Board. He is a trustee of Lebanon Valley College.

Mr. Garber was born in Manor Township, Lancaster County. He attended the public schools of West Hempfield Township, Mountville High School, and Pennsylvania Business College at Lancaster. He is an active participant in civic affairs, serving as director and treasurer of the Columbia Hospital; director and secretary-treasurer of the Columbia Welfare Association; and is presently employed as Cost Accountant and Tester with United Throwing Company (Silk Mill), of Columbia.

Gipple—John E. Gipple, a native of the Powell's Valley region of Dauphin County, resided at Harrisburg and was a member of Derry Street Church. He united with the congregation October 14, 1900. The present pastor writes of him thus: "This church must not forget that he gave a great portion of his life to its (Derry Street Church, sic.) program and in no small way was responsible for its growth." His activity was in part channeled through the following official connections: Sunday School superintendent, more than thirty years; trustee, forty-five years; class leader about fifteen years; and annual conference delegate, twenty-six years.



Oscar E. Good



John E. Gipple

In the annual conference, Mr. Gipple has been a member of the Missionary and Church Extension Society since 1934. Annual conference elected him to the trustee board of Lebanon Valley College in 1924, and from that time to the present he has been a member of its Finance Committee. He represented his conference as lay delegate at the 1937 and 1941 sessions of General Conference. The 1937 session elected him to membership on the Board of Home Missions. In public life, he was engaged in an extensive business in Real Estate and Insurance. Mr. Gipple died March 24, 1948, at the age of seventy-five years, one month, and fifteen days.

Good—Oscar E. Good was born at Progress, a suburb of Harrisburg, December 23, 1871. His parents, John and Elizabeth Good, had their spiritual roots deep in the best traditions of United Brethrenism. He attended the public schools of Progress, was graduated from Harrisburg Academy in 1890, from Lebanon Valley College in 1894; and attended a summer session of the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Good was an instructor in the Science Department of Lebanon Valley College, 1894-96, and gave the years 1897 to 1920 to the public schools of Swatara and Susquehanna townships, Dauphin County—nine of these years as Principal of the Penbrook Schools. From 1920 onward he was president of the Penbrook Trust Company, now Penbrook Banking Company.

Mr. Good was a member of Grace Church, Penbrook. He has made vital contributions to its progress through his services as Sunday School Superintendent for more than fifty years, as president of the board of trustees, president of the church choir, secre-

tary of the quarterly conference, and member of the Building Committee for the new church edifice. He was a trustee of his Alma Mater. The constituency of the conference elected him to three General Conferences; viz, 1933, 1937, and 1941, and in that body he served on the following committees: Bonebrake Seminary and the Ministry, Credentials and Rules of Order, and Social Justice and International Relations. He is secretary of the Committee on Publishing a Conference History. His knowledge of our denominational work in and about Harrisburg was a fertile source of information to the author of this volume.

(His life came to a close March 18, 1950.)

Horst—Miles Horst, Secretary of Agriculture, in the Governor's Cabinet of the State of Pennsylvania is one of the busiest men we know, and one of the best and most favorably-known men in the state. He is the son of Uriah B. and Emma L. Horst of Schaeffers-town, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Schaefferstown High School, Millersville State Teachers College, Pennsylvania State College, and Columbia University.

He united with the Schaefferstown Church, later transferred to the Avon Church, and is now a member of Palmyra First Church. He has been a teacher of Men's Bible Classes through all of his adult life; was church trustee at Avon, and presently serves as president of the trustee board at Palmyra. Because of his convincing, conversational manner in public speaking, with genuine sincerity, he has more calls to address Church and Sunday School audiences than he can accept.

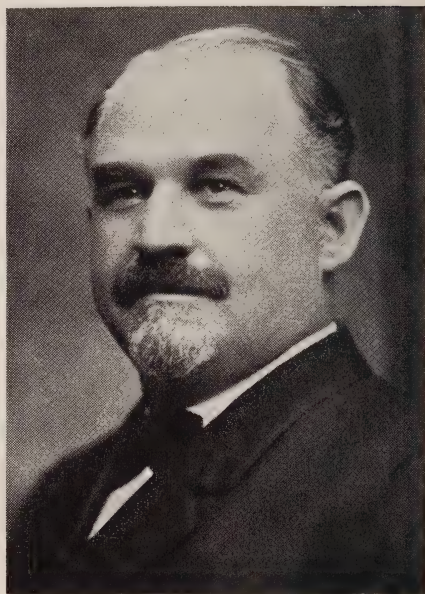
For a time Mr. Horst represented his district as Assemblyman in the State Legislature at Harrisburg. He was Secretary of the Pennsylvania Council of Farm Organizations, 1928-43; and Associate Editor of The Pennsylvania Farmer, 1922-43. His official connection with farm organizations are numerous. He is a member of the trustee board of Lebanon Valley College and of the trustee board of Pennsylvania State College.

Mr. Horst was Governor Edward Martin's choice, in 1943, to be Secretary of Agriculture, and Governor James Duff has continued him in that position. In addition to the functions of his office he has had the responsibility, for several years, of organizing the State Farm Show. He himself is a farm owner and manager. Mr. Horst is constantly traveling from one end of the state to the other giving attention to official duties and farm organizations' interests, but when Sunday morning comes, his family and he go on their ten mile trip to attend Sunday School and Church.

Kreider—Aaron S. Kreider held an honored place in the councils of our denomination. His most important work was as trustee of the Printing Establishment at Dayton, Ohio, from 1917 until the time of his death in 1929. For one quadrennium he was a member at large of the Seminary Board. This conference elected him delegate to represent it at General Conference, 1917-1925. Locally, he was



Miles Horst



Aaron S. Kreider

a staunch supporter of Lebanon Valley College. He gave liberally to its general needs, and established a ten-thousand dollar Ministerial Scholarship Fund. Beginning with 1909, he was a member of the board of trustees of the College, serving as its president from 1914 forward as long as he lived.

Mr. Kreider was a member of the board of trustees of the College Church at Annville, and was one of the men who had a large part in providing so magnificent a temple of worship for that congregation.

He was born in South Annville Township, Lebanon County, June 26, 1863. At the age of seventeen he was graduated from Allentown Business College. He established a grain and coal business at Lawn. Later he organized the A. S. Kreider Shoe Company. The interests of the company increased to the extent that large factories were in operation in five different centers.

The Republican Party elected him a delegate to the State Convention of 1910. He was elected by his district to the Sixty-Third and four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1915 to March 3, 1923). While General Conference was in session at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, he died May 19, 1929.

Rupp—Among the men prominent in the civil life of Dauphin County is the Honorable J. Paul Rupp, President Judge of the Courts of Common Pleas of Dauphin County located at Harrisburg. Mr. Rupp was graduated from Swatara High School, 1914; Steelton High, 1915; and Lebanon Valley College, 1919. He was engaged

in teaching in several High Schools from 1919 to 1922. He then decided to enter the legal profession, and in preparation for the same attended Dickinson College, graduating in 1925, receiving the A.M. degree from the College and the LL.B. degree from the Law School. The years 1925 to 1941 were spent in the practice of law. He was commissioned Judge, January 5, 1942, and as Presiding Judge, February 17, 1948.

Judge Rupp was born in Swatara Township, the son of Christian F. and Laura Hocker Rupp. The parents are of old United Brethren stock, members of the Chambers' Hill Church which J. Paul attended in youth. At present he resides in Steelton, holds membership in the Centenary United Brethren Church of that city and is a member of its board of trustees. The constituency of this conference elected him a delegate to the General Conference of 1945. Pressure of public duties prevented his attending the 1946 merging conference.

The Judge was a Lieutenant of Infantry in the First World War. While practicing Law he was treasurer of Dauphin County, 1932-36. He is a member of the Governor's Highway Planning Commission; member and Past President of Harris Ferry Chapter, Sons of the Revolution; President of the Executive Club of Harrisburg; member of the S. A. E. Fraternity; and member of the trustee board of Lebanon Valley College, which institution conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws in 1947.

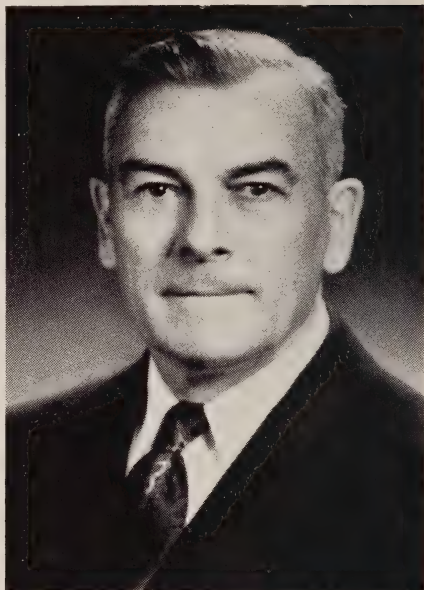
Sneath—Jacob Sneath, one of the very active laymen of the conference, was born in Mountville, Lancaster County, November 11, 1828, the son of Robert and Mary Todd Sneath. He was converted in his teens, joined the Mountville Church; there he assisted in organizing the first Sunday School, served some time as one of its teachers, and for about fourteen years was its general superintendent. At the age of twenty-three he became a building contractor. In the year 1872 he moved to Columbia. There he served the church in various capacities: superintendent of the Sunday School for about thirty years, member of the trustee board of which he was the president; and class leader. As a class leader he was at his post of duty on the evening of October 2, 1906, and there expressed that he felt his time on earth would not long continue.

He became ill, suddenly, during the same night, and the next day he was called to his eternal reward.

Brother Sneath was a progressive leader in his local church. He believed that the first church building was not well located. A new and more favorable location was selected mainly through his aggressiveness. He advocated certain advances in church worship, giving leadership to the installation of a pipe organ, and in hiring an organist and a soprano soloist. This was at a time when such matters were considered to be innovations. He was for many years lay representative to annual conference, which body nominated him to be one of its delegates to General Conference of the year 1901.



J. Paul Rupp



A. C. Spangler

The one regret of his life was that he did not have the advantages of a more liberal education. His regard for education was realized by his sons, Isaiah W. and Israel H., both of whom were graduated from Lebanon Valley College and from Yale Divinity School. The former entered the ministry in this conference in 1881, and was Professor of Greek in Lebanon Valley 1885-87; the latter was a professor in Yale, teaching courses in Philosophy and Religion; and was author of various books.

Spangler—A. C. Spangler, a native of Campbelltown, Pennsylvania, is known throughout the conference and the denomination as a strong leader of laymen. Beginning with the year 1929, he has been elected to each succeeding General Conference. That body elected him to membership on the Board of Home Missions in 1933 and to the Board of Administration in 1937. In 1945 he was chosen to be a district vice-president of the National Otterbein Brotherhood. In the annual conference he has functioned through the Board of Christian Education since 1937, and through certain annually appointed committees. He is chairman of the Laymen's Association of the annual conference. For many years he was adult Director under the Board of Christian Education.

Mr. Spangler was for a time engaged in teaching in the schools of Lebanon County, having been qualified by holding a Permanent State Teacher's Certificate. At present he is employed in the Post Office at Lebanon. He is a member of the church at Campbelltown, an organization which in no small way owes its rapid growth to his energy and devotion. Presently, he is general superintendent

of the Sunday School, teacher of the Men's Bible Class, and secretary of the church trustee board.

Through his willingness to go the second mile in Christian service, he is much in demand as a Rally Day speaker. He has appeared on these and other occasions in promoting different phases of Kingdom interests in many, if not in a majority, of the churches of the annual conference.

3. In General Denominational Work

Bishop Grant D. Batdorf—Seven bishops of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ were born in eastern Pennsylvania. Martin Boehm, Christian Newcomer, and Jacob Erb were born in Lancaster County, Andrew Zeller, Henry Kumler Sr., and Henry Kumler Jr. in Berks County and Grant D. Batdorf in Lebanon County.

Bishop Batdorf, son of William and Amelia Sattazahn Batdorf, was born near Lickdale, April 30, 1874. Only the barest outline of this distinguished bishop of the Church can be set down in this brief biography.

With the close of the period of which we are writing, fifty years of his effective ministry in the Gospel of Jesus Christ have become history. He received quarterly conference license in 1896, was received into membership in East Pennsylvania Annual Conference in 1897, and ordained in 1898. Churches served by him since ordination were: Allentown Zion, 1898-1901; Harrisburg First, 1901-06; Reading Zion, 1906-11; Lancaster Covenant, 1911-20; and First Church, Dayton, Ohio, 1920-29. From the time of the second year of his Dayton pastorate until 1929, he was a member of Miami Conference. In that year he transferred to East Pennsylvania.

Dr. Batdorf has always been a diligent and thorough student. The educational institutions from which he was graduated with degrees conferred are: Millersville State Teachers College, B. E., 1893; Bonebrake Theological Seminary, B. D., 1898; Illinois Wesleyan, Ph. B., 1902, and Ph. D., 1910. Otterbein College conferred upon him the Degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1921, and Lebanon Valley College the Degree of Doctor of Laws in 1936.

While in the pastorate at Dayton, Dr. Batdorf lectured in the Department of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology at Bonebrake Seminary, 1921-26, and for a brief period served ad interim as Business Manager of that institution. His abilities as pastor, educator, lecturer, and administrator became widely known, and universally accepted by his brethren throughout the denomination. When the General Conference of 1929 met in Covenant Church, Lancaster, he was first elected Bishop, and assigned to the Eastern Bishop's Area. He was thrice re-elected to the Episcopacy and continued in the same area. He had previously been a delegate to the general body for the sessions of 1917, 1921, and 1925.

The worth of the service of Bishop Batdorf has been generously recognized beyond the pale of his own denomination. He is a

member of the Federal Council of Churches since 1920, and of the World Council since 1941, serving in each with acceptability on important committees. For a number of years while occupying the Bishop's manse at Harrisburg, he was president of the Pennsylvania State Council of Churches, and of the Anti-Saloon League of Pennsylvania. From the time of his pastorate at Lancaster, Bishop Batdorf has had numerous calls to preach and lecture before a great variety of assemblies and convocations. His preaching tours have taken him to all but six of the forty-eight states of the Union. He has addressed audiences in twenty-five countries, and spoken on shipboard on the seven seas of the world. His world tour in 1936-37, accompanied by Mrs. Batdorf, and Dr. and Mrs. Enck, which had as its chief objective a visit to our own missions abroad, gave him opportunity to make observations of religious and social conditions in thirty countries.

Bishop Batdorf brought dignity and grace to the highest office the denomination has to offer. His mastery of parliamentary procedure, grasp of the import of subjects under discussion, and impartial and prompt decisions, flavored with a ready wit, always assured that the business before the General and annual conference sessions over which he presided would be conducted with dignity and dispatch. His sermons may well serve as models in content, structure, delivery, and inspiration.

Because of the rule on the age-limit of Bishops, he was not eligible for reelection in 1945. The session of that year, however, graciously voted him an emeritus relation. In that he maintains a keen interest in the general welfare of the denomination, and continues participation in the high council of administrative affairs. The demands made upon him for pulpit and platform appearances are more than he can honor.

Bishop J. Balmer Showers—At the General Conference held in May 1945 at Westerville, Ohio, Dr. J. Balmer Showers was elected to the bishopric and assigned to the Eastern Bishop's Area. Though not a member of East Pennsylvania Conference, we deem it appropriate to include in this record a few brief statements concerning the bishop who now presides over the annual sessions of our conference. Before coming to us as bishop, he was personally known by many of our people, and his services to the denomination were more widely known.

His heroic work as Publishing Agent of the Printing Establishment at Dayton, Ohio, during a crisis-hour of its history, brought him in close contact with certain of the laity and of the ministry of our conference, over the years 1933-45. He made a vital impact upon those ministerial students who sat under his instruction while he was a professor in Bonebrake Theological Seminary, 1910-27. His appearances at annual conference sessions, at the Mt. Gretna Summer Assembly, and on other special occasions within our conference bounds, also gave opportunity to our people to know Dr. Showers,

personally. In this brief period of a little more than a year of service among us as bishop, we have come to recognize his abilities as a competent administrator, a wise counselor, and a forceful preacher of the Word.

Henry S. Gabel—One of the spiritual sons of East Pennsylvania Conference was elected to the office of General Secretary of the Church Extension Society. Dr. Henry S. Gabel held this office two quadrenniums, being first elected in 1905. He had been in the presiding eldership of East German Conference seven years, 1894-1900, and in East Pennsylvania, after merger of the two conferences, three years, and a part of the fourth year, or until July 1905 when he moved to Dayton to take up the duties of his new office.

During his administration as secretary of the Society, total assets to the amount of \$159,752.91 were secured. He strongly advocated coordinating the efforts of the General Society and the several conference societies, believing that better work could be accomplished in the field of home missions and church erection by a strong central agency.

The Reverend Gabel was converted in Lebanon Salem Church at about the age of twelve under the ministry of the Reverend H. H. Gelbach, and by him encouraged to enter the ministry. Quarterly license was voted him at the age of eighteen. In 1882 he was granted annual license, and he was ordained three years later. His pastorates were: Catawissa Circuit, 1881-84; Port Richmond Mission, 1884-85; Pinegrove Church, 1885-87; Lykens Valley Circuit, 1887-89; and Lebanon Salem Church, 1889-94. After returning from Dayton he served the Mt. Joy congregation from the fall of 1913 until his death, April 29, 1914. He was born at Lebanon, July 31, 1860.

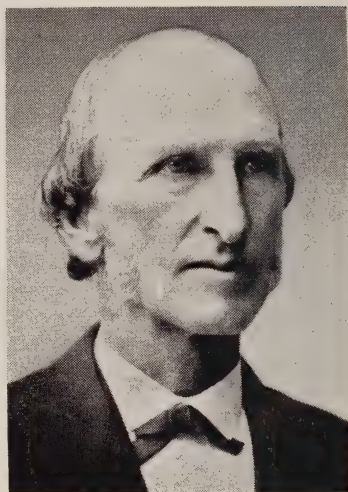
The memoir by Dr. Albright states: "Brother Gabel was a good man, an able preacher of the Gospel, a kind husband and father, a wise counselor, a splendid leader, a loving brother and friend."

Solomon VonNieda—Solomon VonNieda was a grandson of Johann VonNieda who migrated from the Platz, in Germany, and settled near Muddy Creek on the boundry line between Lancaster and Berks Counties, near Adamstown, in the year 1771. Philip VonNieda, son of Johann Jacob, and father of Solomon, was a miller. Solomon also was engaged in the milling trade. He was born March 24, 1809, and at the age of twenty-eight he married Miss Elizabeth Fry. Under the preaching of those ministers who served the Berks County Circuit he found pardon for his sins and answered the call to the Gospel Ministry. In December of the year 1844, he received quarterly conference license at the hands of Casper Light, presiding elder for the Lebanon District.

He was received into annual conference membership in 1845, and was ordained in 1848. At the session of that year he was appointed to Berks County Circuit. His subsequent appointments were: Dauphin Circuit, 1849-50; and Myerstown Circuit, 1850-52. At the 1852



Henry S. Gabel



Solomon VonNieda

and the 1853 sessions he was elected presiding elder. He served as German secretary for the sessions of 1849, 51, 52, and 53.

The Rev. VonNieda was elected a delegate by East Pennsylvania Conference to the General Conference which met at Miltonville, Butler County, Ohio, in 1853. His reputation as an efficient businessman, as well as his ability as worker in the vineyard of Christ led to his election as Publishing Agent. The same session of General Conference ordered removal of the printing establishment from Circleville, Ohio, to Dayton. In the month of August 1853 he arrived at Dayton with the scanty equipment, which was taken from Circleville to Columbus by canal boats, from Columbus to Xenia on two freight cars, and then transported in wagons to Dayton. He was head of the Publishing House two quadrenniums, having as his associate Henry Kumler Jr., 1854-55, and T. N. Sowers, 1855-61.

His duties were further increased in 1859 by having been assigned editorship of the *Froeliche Botschafter* and the *Children's Friend*. He continued as editor for the *Botschafter* until 1866, and of the *Friend* until 1869. He had sympathy for and understanding of children, and for ten years the readers of the *Children's Friend* felt they had an almost personal acquaintance with "Uncle Solomon."

At the close of his second term as Publishing Agent he became chief bookkeeper of the House until the time of his death, July 20, 1880. His death came through injuries received while driving from Dayton to his home at Sulphur Grove. On approaching a crossing of the C. H. & D. Railroad, his horse became frightened by a passing train, veered suddenly, upsetting the carriage. He held on to the reins and was dragged some distance.

Mr. John Dodds wrote of him after his demise, thus: "He was a Christian gentleman of the highest order. His attention to business was so regular and constant that his absence from his post for the briefest time excited wonder and inquiry as to its cause."

Commodore I. B. Brane—The name of Dr. Brane became favorably known throughout the denomination by his writings as Associate Editor of the Religious Telescope, a position he held from July 1909 until his death April 7, 1920. His early life was saturated by the rich traditions which arose from the founding of the denomination about Frederick, Maryland. He was born in the neighborhood of the Peter Kemp home on Christmas Day in the year 1848, a son of Henry and Margaret Lauman Brane. The famous Kemp house passed into the possession of a daughter of Peter Kemp, Esther by name, who married Valentine Doub. The United Brethren continued to use the house as a place of worship until services were transferred to the Rocky Springs Schoolhouse which was located about a mile west of the Kemp-Doub residence.

Of this schoolhouse and his interest in it, Dr. Brane wrote: "Here the writer worshipped on Sunday and wrestled with the 'three R's' during the week. . . . It is the embodiment of some of the sweetest memories of my life, secular, social, and religious. In that old schoolhouse I was converted. Within those walls, one bright Sunday morning, I was formally received into the Church."

The Rev. Mr. Brane received quarterly conference license in 1870, was admitted to the Virginia Conference in 1873, and was ordained in 1876. The charges he served in that conference were: Potomac Mission, New Germany, Thurmont, Rockbridge, Berkeley Springs, and Dayton. In 1885-86 he was presiding elder of the Shenandoah District. He transferred to the Maryland Conference in 1887, and by its appointment served Hagerstown, St. Paul's Church; and the Church in Washington, D. C., of which he was the founder. The General Conference of 1893 elected him Secretary of Church Election, which office he held until September of 1894.

In the year 1896, the Rev. Mr. Brane transferred to East Pennsylvania Conference in which he retained membership to the time of his death. Very early in his ministerial career, he had served the church at Mt. Airy in this conference, then a suburb of Philadelphia—year of 1876-77. Before transferring to this conference he had a two-year pastorate on the Pequea Charge; after transfer he was pastor at Trinity Church, Lebanon, 1896-1906; and Otterbein Church, Reading, 1906-09.

Dr. Brane had a keen interest in historical matters. He wrote numerous short sketches of local church events. The Churches of Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, and of Frederick County, Maryland, are especially indebted to him for his work as co-author with Daniel Eberly and I. H. Albright of the "Landmark History of the United Brethren Church."



Otterbein Press Building and Book Store

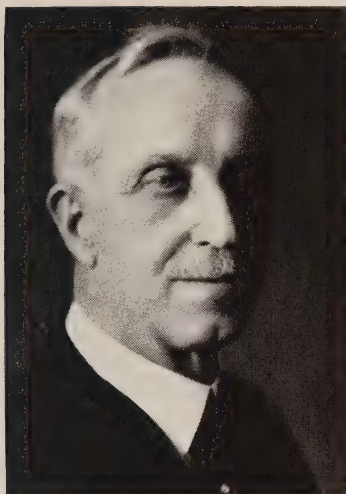
Lyter, Joseph A.—When Joseph A. Lyter was a young minister (in fact it was the year of his ordination, at the age of twenty-five), he made a report to annual conference in the interests of Church Erection, in which he said:

In this age of the world we need more . . . and better church-houses—better and more imposing structures in our centers of population, for the building itself ought to carry with it, and produce feelings of awe and reverence. The site ought to be the best. The time is past when we should build churches in an alley or byway, simply because someone donates ground there, or it can be bought for less than elsewhere.

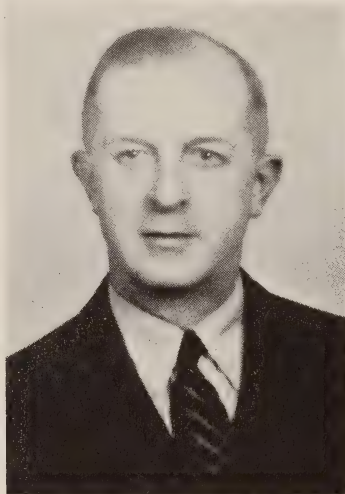
That statement proved to be prophetic of Dr. Lyter's later program in erection of churches. The imposing structure on the corner of Fifteenth and Derry, the well-constructed building on the corner of Twenty-ninth and Derry, and the location at Eighteenth and State streets, all in the city of Harrisburg, bear testimony that he was not beating the air with words when he advocated better sites and more stately buildings.

The element of constructiveness characterized all of Dr. Lyter's thoughts and actions. He was cultured and scholarly, yet withal exceedingly practical and genuinely sympathetic. His skill in repartee was the delight of all who had intimate contacts with him. His public utterances and his writings showed that he was a thorough student of the Scriptures.

The Rev. Lyter was born at Enders (Jacksonville), Dauphin County, January 22, 1865, the son of John H. and Sarah Davidson Lyter. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College (A.B.) 1885, and (A.M.) 1888. For several years following graduation in 1885, he was principal of the Berrysburg Academy. He received annual license in 1888 and was ordained in 1890. His pastorates were: Paxinos



Joseph A. Lyter



John B. Lyter

Circuit; Mountville (Lancaster County), Port Richmond (Philadelphia), Mt. Joy, Hummelstown, Harrisburg Derry Street, and Annville Churches. The successes he had, particularly in Harrisburg, are stated in the earlier pages of this volume.

Dr. Lyter was elected to the office of Associate Editor of Sunday School Literature on October 27, 1925. He began active work in that Department the following January and continued therein until his demise, January 29, 1940. He was a member of General Conference four quadrenniums, 1913-1925, serving as its recording secretary for the sessions of 1917-21-25. At the first session attended, he was elected a trustee of the Printing Establishment Board of which he became secretary. Dr. Lyter was secretary of seventeen sessions of annual conference and was a member of many of its important boards and committees. He was a trustee of Lebanon Valley College, 1907-25, which institution conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1906. He served as Chaplain of the House of Representatives of his native state, 1901-1903.

Lyter, John B.—The union of Joseph A. Lyter and wife, Margaret A. Bowman Lyter, was blessed by the birth of two sons: John B. and Thomas B. The latter is minister of the Washington Presbyterian Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Son John was born while the father was pastor of the Mountville Church, Lancaster County. We claim him as a son of East Pennsylvania. On July 6, 1914, soon after graduation from Lebanon Valley College, he became an employee of the Otterbein Press. Except for the period from May 1918 to August 1919, during which he served overseas in World War I, he has been constantly "on the job" at the Press.

Currently, Mr. Lyter is serving in the capacity of Circulating

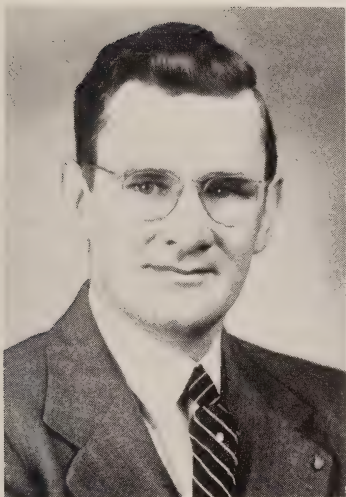
Manager. As such he supervises the circulation and mailing operations of Sunday School literature and religious periodicals. His particular qualifications have drawn him into other activities. His long experience in the publishing of church books, periodicals, and annual conference proceedings, have given him a reservoir of knowledge of these activities and procedures. He is frequently consulted in any work of church nature. Because of his experience in the Otterbein merchandise and Book Store activities, he now serves in an advisory capacity to these two departments.

Mr. Lyter has had great concern that the achievements of East Pennsylvania Conference get into print. To this end he made available to the writer source-materials lodging in the archives of the Otterbein Press, of which he is the custodian. Furthermore, he made invaluable suggestions having to do with the form of and the publishing of this volume. Through his influence a number of cuts, property of the Press, were loaned without charge, for use in setting up some of the pages of this book.

McLanachan—Miss Mary McLanachan joined the United Brethren Church of Elizabethville, Dauphin County, at the age of fourteen. She graduated from Lebanon Valley College with the class of 1927. Her devoted participation in local and conference Christian Endeavor organizations led to her being selected for a position in General Departmental work. Upon graduation from college she was called to Dayton, Ohio, to be superintendent of Junior and Intermediate work under the department of Christian Endeavor. After serving in that capacity for a little more than a year, she returned to Pennsylvania to engage in teaching.

In 1930 Miss McLanachan was again called to Dayton. She then served as Field Worker, later Secretary of Missionary Education, under the Women's Missionary Association. She continued in that capacity until August 1, 1945, when she was elected editor of the Evangel. During the early part of the period following 1930 she was also superintendent of Junior work under the direction of Dr. Deever, head of the department of Christian Education. Her secretarial work included preparation of most of the promotional material sent out by the Association. Miss McLanachan is the daughter of Samuel Boyce and Virginia B. Hackman McLanachan. The mother is a daughter of the Rev. Henry E. Hackman, late a minister of this conference.

Ranck—In November of 1945 the Rev. J. Allan Ranck was chosen to be Director of Young People's Work under the General Board of Christian Education. He assumed the duties of that office on January 1, 1946. At the time of his election he had just entered upon the eighth year of a fruitful ministry with Allentown Zion Church. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Ranck who reside near New Holland, Lancaster County. The father has been for many years an active layman of the Church which bears the name of his paternal ancestor, and is currently ministering to the spiritual needs of the Elverson congregation. Two sons of these parents have entered

**J. Allan Ranck****Mary McLanachan**

the ministry: Ezra H. and J. Allan. The former is pastor of the Mt. Joy Church. He also carries heavy responsibilities in connection with the youth work of the Mt. Gretna Summer Assembly.

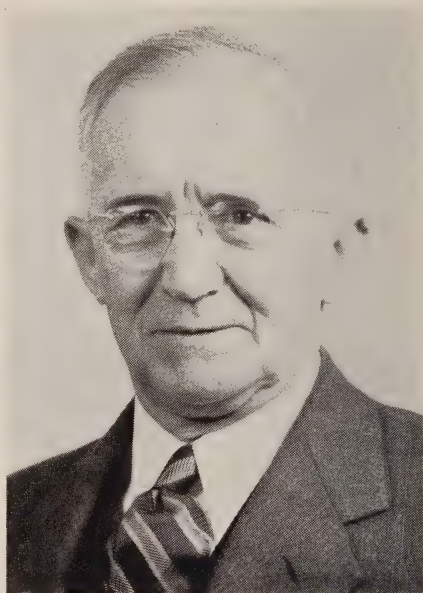
The Rev. J. Allan was granted quarterly conference license in 1933 by recommendation of the Ranck's Class. He was admitted to Annual Conference in 1934, and was ordained in 1937. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1934, and from Bonebrake Theological Seminary in 1937. While pastor at Allentown, he pursued graduate work in Temple University in theology and other subjects, graduating with the degree of Master of Theology in 1943.

4. In Mission Fields

The proper recording of the services of those persons who have gone into mission fields is a project in itself. Further research would have to be undertaken and more space made available in order to write a complete story of missionary endeavor. Only the listing of names of missionaries and places where they served is here attempted. Those appointed to West Africa are: the Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Leshner, the Rev. and Mrs. Ira E. Albert, Dr. and Mrs. John F. Musselman, the Rev. J. M. Richter, Miss Edith Fridy, Miss Grace Renn, Miss Estelle High, the Rev. Lloyd Bowman, Miss Mabel Beckley, Miss June Hartranft, and Miss Florence Barnhart; to China, Dr. and Mrs. Charles W. Shoop, the Rev. and Mrs. Clifford A. Funk, Miss Esther Schell, and the Rev. and Mrs. Calvin H. Reber Jr.; to the Philippines, the Rev. and Mrs. Clayton C. Witmer, the Rev. and Mrs. Chester E. Rettew, and Miss Lucile Esbenschade; to Home Mission stations, Miss Cora M. Horst, Mrs. Nelle M. Engle, Miss Helen Butterwick, Miss Eleanor Shaeffer, and Miss Edith Shelly. Two of the brethren had long and distinguished careers as superintendents of missions.



John F. Musselman



Charles W. Shoop

The Rev. John F. Musselman went to West Africa in 1908. Miss Alice Daugherty, a daughter of the Rev. Joseph B. Daugherty, pastor and presiding elder in this conference, became the wife of the Rev. Musselman during his first furlough. She had preceded him by one year as missionary to West Africa. Together they served in that field until 1947. He was stationed, successively, at Shenge, Rotifunk, and Freetown. From 1921 onward to 1947 he was superintendent of all work in the province of Sierra Leone.

Throughout his entire missionary career, Dr. Musselman was supported by Lancaster Covenant Church, which church recommended him for quarterly license in 1906. He was ordained in 1909. Indiana Central University honored him with the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1931. He was born in Florin, Lancaster County, became a member of the church there, and transferred membership to Covenant Church in 1898. He died on Sunday morning, September 7, 1947, while on a visit to his homeland, being on his way to conduct Holy Communion at Shirk's Church.

His congenial spirit won him many friends at home and abroad. Only eternity will reveal the glory of the kindly deeds of this tried and true apostle of Christ.

The Rev. Charles W. Shoop and wife, Kathryn Elizabeth Steffy Shoop, were consecrated as missionaries by Bishop G. M. Mathews at the 1912 session of annual conference. They were assigned to service in China, arriving at Canton in mid-November of the same year, and served in that great oriental city—except for two brief

periods totalling less than two years, spent in Siu Lam—until April 1949. Dr. Shoop's primary interest has been in Christian Religious Education. He represented the United Brethren on the faculty—chair of Religious Education, on part-time basis, 1918 to 1938—of the Canton Union Theological College. During 1937-38, he was its acting president.

In 1917 the General Board at Dayton appointed him mission superintendent, which responsibility he held until 1949. As the Board's representative in South China, he worked in every way possible toward a truly Christian Church that would be also a truly indigenous Church. In cooperation with a small group of like-minded colleagues representing other Communions among the South China Missions, and the support of an earnest effort of the best Chinese Christian leadership, Dr. Shoop played no small role in effecting the Church of Christ in China, at the beginning of the second decade of the century. In that organization he held the position of Associate Executive Secretary; as also of secretary of Religious Education for the Kwangtung Synod, 1926-49. It is to be understood that these several services ran concurrently, and were coordinated.

The parents of Charles W. Shoop were William and Elizabeth Wise Shoop who lived in the vicinity of Union Church, Wayne Township, Dauphin County. Their son Charles was born August 10, 1879. He united with that Church at the age of twelve. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1908 and from Bonebrake Theological Seminary in 1912. His Alma Mater conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1929.

5. Services Relating to Historical Data

Though many precious written and printed sources of information relative to the history of East Pennsylvania Conference have no doubt been lost, we are fortunate in that the official minutes or proceedings of every conference session from 1800 to the present have been preserved. Fortunate indeed also that beginning with the year 1800, sixty-one years of proceedings are written in one book. This treasured volume, well-bound and well-preserved, is nine and one-half by seven inches in size and one and one-half inches in thickness.

The territory of the Original Conference having been divided in 1829, it became necessary to secure a new minute book. The following item, quoted from the proceedings of 1830, tells what course was followed.

Resolved that Hagerstown Conference shall retain the old "Protocol" and the Pennsylvania or Harrisburg Conference shall secure a new one.

Bro, (Bishop) Kumler gave William Brown two dollars for this purpose and Brown shall buy a book and shall transcribe the conference proceedings out of the old into the new.

When the territory was further divided in 1846, the book which

the Rev. Brown purchased passed into possession of East Pennsylvania Conference. Its possession is attested on the first page of the book under the signature of the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, secretary, year 1863. The secretaries of the newly formed conference continued to record its proceedings in the same book until 1846, and those of East Pennsylvania Conference did likewise to and including the year 1861.

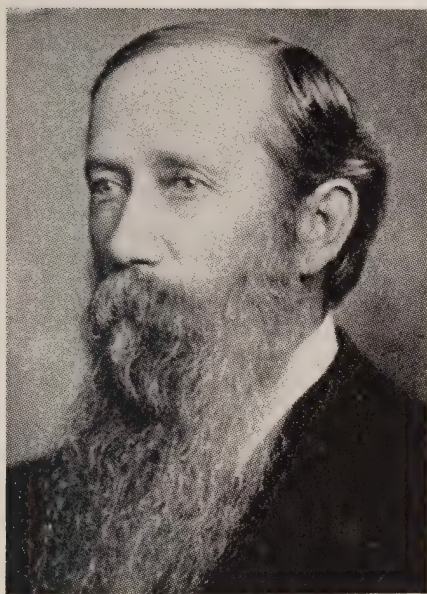
A second written volume beginning with the session of the year 1862 and closing with that of 1870 also is preserved. From 1865 onward the proceedings appear in written form. Those of the East German Conference are preserved as follows: in a written volume, covering the years 1870 to 1881, (from 1870 to 1877 in German script, 1878 to 1881 in English). Printed copies in our possession are those of the years 1873, 1874, and 1879 to 1900.

The proceedings in the old Journal (1800-1861) are in German script for the years 1800-1837, 1839, and 1848-50. In 1900-01, Dr. I. H. Albright, while pastor of Shamokin First Church, completed the work of translating these proceedings written in German to and including the year 1839. He also collected from various sources a considerable number of printed copies of proceedings of later years. After his death, the Rev. N. L. Linebaugh secured from Mrs. Albright the copies collected, and added later copies to the collection. Dr. Albright had also seventy-nine slides of historic subjects. These the Rev. Linebaugh secured also. Furthermore, by the aid of Joseph Lilienfield of Philadelphia, he translated, from German to English, the proceedings of 1848-50; made a typewritten copy of them, as well, as minutes in script from 1847 to 1865, and bound them in chronological order in a single volume.

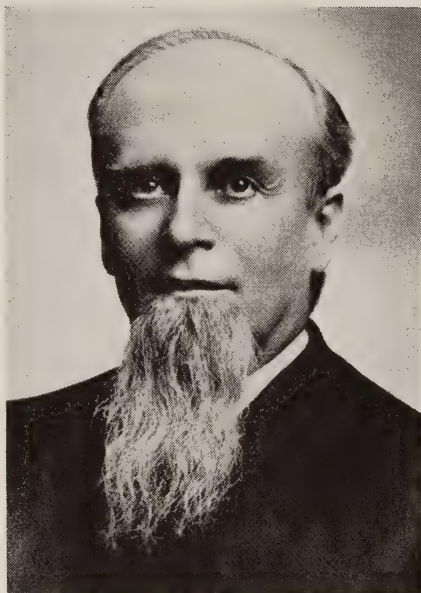
All these materials the Rev. Linebaugh turned over to the present Conference Historian, in part to be held in his custody as property of the conference, and in part to be disposed of as the historian might choose.⁴

It is from the pages of conference proceedings that we learn of efforts made through the years, and to whom credit is due, to preserve and perpetuate knowledge of our heritage as a conference. The Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor was the pioneer in this effort. On a tabular page in the journal of the year 1866 appears information, relative to the Bishops of the Church, compiled by him. Two pages with the heading, "A Retrospect of the Place of Meeting, Etc, of the Conference, since the Year 1800, (Translated from the German [in part] by E. Light, Compiled by G. W. Miles Rigor)," are appended to the proceedings of 1867. He brought information on this subject up to date in the year 1887, and caused it to be inserted in the proceedings of that year.

The conference of the year 1866 passed the following resolution: Whereas, This Conference some years ago, directed its members in charges of fields of labor, to write and preserve a record of the history of their charges; therefore



C. I. B. Brane



I. H. Albright

Resolved, That they shall present copies of these records to the Conference at its next annual session, for such historical use as Conference may deem fit to make of them.

Further action was taken on this matter in 1869, as follows:

Resolved, That preachers in charge of fields of labor of which there has not been a written history, shall write such history, and present it to our next conference. (Histories of the following fields of labor have been received, viz: Salem and Trinity Churches of Lebanon, Zion's Church of Reading; Harrisburg, Susquehanna, Lyken's Valley, and Shamokin circuits, and Myerstown and Schuylkill Haven Stations.)⁵

Here is at least one evidence of the existence of historical data which is now lost to us. Here is evidence too of the reluctance of men to write, or to properly evaluate that which is written.

Mr. Rigor was not one of those reluctant souls. The records show that he was the moving spirit back of the foregoing resolutions. Later, in 1873, at the time when he was Corresponding Secretary of the United Brethren Historical Society, he was granted the privilege of stating to the conference, "That according to a provision of the Constitution of the Society, the East Pennsylvania Conference could name the Board of Directors for the said Society."⁶

Conference thereupon proceeded to elect fifty-five persons who represented various sections of the denomination.

In 1886, conference began the practice of electing, annually, an

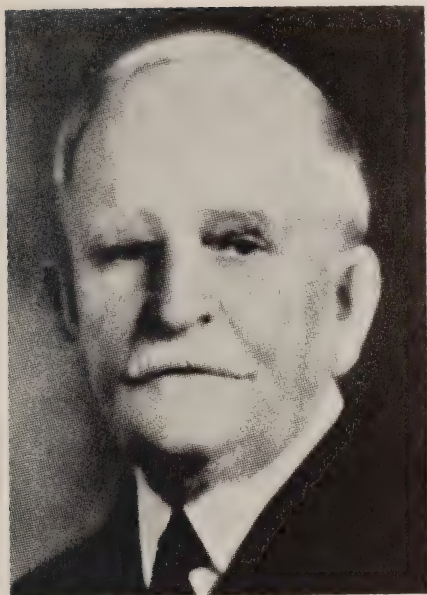
Historical Secretary. Those elected and serving for the years indicated were: E. W. S. Parthemore, 1886-1904; the Hon. E. Benjamin Bierman, 1904-06; I. H. Albright, 1906-19; N. L. Linebaugh, 1919-20; D. D. Buddinger, 1920-21; S. Edwin Rupp, 1921-24; O. G. Romig, 1924-37; and P. B. Gibble, 1937-46. In 1938 the designation for the office was changed to Conference Historian. The Revs. C. A. Mutch and C. E. Boughter were Corresponding Historical Secretaries in the East German Conference.

In addition to the work of Dr. Albright as recited above, was his contribution to the "Landmark History of the United Brethren Church," pages 82-194, dealing in the main with churches and persons of Lancaster and York counties. He was born in West Fairview, Cumberland County, April 9, 1853, was graduated at the head of the class of 1876, Lebanon Valley College, was licensed in 1876, and ordained in 1879. In East Pennsylvania he served Manheim charge, Florin-Elizabethtown charge, Shamokin First, Lebanon Salem, Reading Zion, New Holland-Ranck's charge, Middletown, and Pleasant Hill-Cleona charge. While on the latter field of labor he died April 21, 1919. Over the years 1882-98, he was pastor at Mt. Wolf, York First, and Dallastown, and was presiding elder five years in Pennsylvania Conference, of which he was a member from 1887 to 1899.

The Rev. Oscar G. Romig revived the practice of including certain historical data in the annual printed proceedings. He, however, much enlarged on the original idea by adding a section on "Biographical Table of Ministerial Service," and one on "Our Departed Ones." While functioning as Historical Secretary, he at the same time was the official reporter for the conference. After his death, several scrapbooks filled with numerous clippings on personal and church matters, and other materials having research value, were passed on to his successor.

Once more we say we are fortunate, and this time for the reason, that so many quarterly conference proceedings have been preserved. Twelve books which in the total include quarterly records of twenty-two circuits, embracing approximately three-fourths of the conference classes and churches then existing were available to the author of this volume for research. Their value and importance lies in the fact that the proceedings therein recorded cover the period when there was the greatest increase in forming of classes and in building of churches where none existed before. The earliest of the twelve is that of the year 1846, three begin recordings as of the year 1848, and one of the year 1849.

Some of these books had not seen the light of day for many a year. Recognition is given to persons who located these books or gave information as to where they might be located. Their names are: the Revs. Harold Beamesderfer, W. E. Deibler, M. V. Fridinger, D. LeRoy Fegley, Harold Hollingsworth, O. L. Mease, H. E. Miller, Daniel L. Shearer, C. R. Swartz, and W. A. Wilt. Mr. A. M. Shissler of Lititz permitted use of a Church Record containing membership



Z. A. Weidler



O. T. Ehrhart

lists of churches and classes of the several circuits of which the Brunerville Church was a part, 1871-80. The Rev. Ira Funk released the Church Record of the Florin Circuit. Mr. Jacob Sherk of Bellegrove turned over to the Conference Historian two books of quarterly records of Lebanon Circuit, later Bellegrove Circuit, for permanent possession, and also granted use of the Bellegrove class roll book.

In more recent years, ministers and in a few instances laymen, have written historical sketches of local churches. The conference archives now contain printed sketches of sixty-six conference churches. Some congregations have published more than one history.

The work of faithful and efficient recording secretaries of the two conferences must not go unnoticed. The names of all who served in that capacity are listed in Chapter XIII. Reference to that list will show who among them had the longer years of service. George A. Geeting is said to have been secretary from 1800 to 1812 inclusive, though his name is not always appended to the proceedings. G. W. Miles Rigor served twenty-five years; Z. A. Weidler, twelve years; Joseph A. Lyter, seventeen years; C. E. Boughter, nine years (six in East Pennsylvania and three in East German); D. S. Longenecker, ten years (in East German); and O. T. Ehrhart gave eight years as assistant recording secretary, and twenty-four years (including 1950), as secretary. C. R. Longenecker, in the year 1950, concludes twenty-nine years as statistical secretary, having had as his assistant during the past fourteen years, A. G. Biely.

In the sketch of Covenant Church, Lancaster, it is intimated that

Dr. Ehrhart has had distinctive assignments. Among the organizations in which he takes an active part as a member are: Trustee Board of Lebanon Valley College, since 1931; Denominational Foreign Missionary Society, since 1933; Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo, since 1936; and the Board of United Andean Mission, since 1945. Of the last named, he was one of its incorporators, and is a member of the Executive committee. The Rev. Ehrhart has been pastor of Covenant Church, Lancaster, since 1920. During his ministry his church has become the strongest church, numerically, in the conference, and one of the strongest in the denomination. Financially, Covenant Church has held also an enviable position among the churches of the denomination, having raised during the period of his pastorate a total of \$833,537 for all purposes. Dr. Ehrhart was a member of four General Conferences and of the merging conference of 1946.

6. Two Outstanding Pastorates

Harry M. Mentzer—The Rev. Harry M. Mentzer was appointed to Valley View Circuit as his first charge in the fall of 1913, and in it he has served continuously to the present. This may be the longest pastorate of a rural parish in the denomination. We know it is an unmatched record so far as East Pennsylvania Annual Conference is concerned. The churches composing the circuit of which the Rev. Mentzer has been pastor for thirty-seven years are, Fearnot, Sacramento, Spring Glen, and Valley View. He reports to the conference session of 1946 a church membership for the entire circuit, of 577, a Sunday School enrollment of 571 with an average attendance of 411.

He is a man of unbounded enthusiasm, and of a friendly disposition. The members of his churches hold him in high esteem. A wide circle of constituents have the utmost confidence in his integrity and worth as a public servant. The Rev. Mentzer has numerous calls for ministerial service to persons who are not members of his parish. He has also carried many community responsibilities, leading out in some of the most important civic and industrial enterprises. During the depression years, when banks were closed and the nearby coal mines were not operating, the going was difficult. These conditions his congregation and he faced with courage and mastered successfully so that all the church houses are in an excellent state of repair and free of debt.

Harry E. Miller—The Rev. Harry Edwin Miller holds the distinction of the longest pastorate in the history of the conference; at the time of his retirement, the longest in the entire denomination. In the fall of 1904 he was appointed to Salem Church, Lebanon, of which he remained active pastor until the fall of 1945. He then became pastor emeritus, retaining that relation until death, February 4, 1947. During student days, the Rev. Miller served Milton-Sunbury Mission as part-time supply in the year 1896-97, and St. Paul's, West Lebanon, 1897-99. He served Elizabethtown Church



Harry M. Mentzer



Harry E. Miller

one year, 1899-1900. After graduation from Bonebrake Theological Seminary in 1903, he was pastor of Myerstown Church one year.

The Rev. Miller was born at Orwin, Schuylkill County, June 5, 1873. His parents later moved to Lebanon, where, at the age of twelve, he was converted in a revival meeting held in Memorial Church. He transferred to Salem Church, which Church recommended him for quarterly license in 1893; and, in that church, his annual license certificate was handed him at the conference session of 1894. He was ordained in 1899. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, (A. B.) 1899; (A. M.) 1912; and was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1916. He pursued special courses in the fields of Metaphysics and Philosophy at Temple University.

During the years of his membership in annual conference he served on many committees and boards, chief of which were: the Committee on Applications and Credentials, Elders' Orders, Home Missionary and Extension Society, Preachers' Aid Board, and Trustee of Lebanon Valley College. Beginning with 1909, he represented his annual conference as delegate to the General Conference at eight quadrennial sessions. Illness prevented him from attending a ninth session and the merging conference of 1946, to which he had been elected.

Dr. Miller lived vicariously for his flock and for his denomination. At Salem Church, he received 1,078 members on Confession of Faith. The number of baptisms run into the thousands. If one were to go through the pages of the public press and make clippings of weddings and funerals at which he officiated, they would form a con-

siderable bulk. His pulpit utterances were outstanding in preparation, arrangement and delivery. In exegetical and expository presentations he had few equals. His choice use of words, correctness of pronunciation, and careful phrasing, brought an awareness that one was listening to a master of the English language.

7. In the Chaplaincy

WORLD WAR I

Phares M. Holdeman

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., Oct. 27, 1917.

Training: Spring of 1918, (1) Fortress Monroe, Va., (2) Camp Meade, Md.

Duty: Embarked July 6, 1918. All service with 314th Inf., 79th Div.; in both phases of the Argonne Forest Offensive; at front on Armistice Day; when Reg. returned, remained in France as the only official chaplain to German prisoners of war.

Returned: July 31, 1919; discharged from Camp Dix, Aug. 12, 1919.

WORLD WAR II

Russell G. Becktel

Commissioned: 1st Lieut.; promoted, Capt., Aug. 12, 1942.

Training: Harvard Chap's. School, June-July, 1942.

Duty: Ft. George G. Meade, Md., 178th Inf.; Manvrs. in North and South Carolina; Guard, Anacostia, Wash., D. C.; Air Corps, Morris Field, Charlotte, N. C.; 79th Fighter Gr., Bedford, Providence, and Hartford, Conn.; Post Ch., 8th Service Command, Fresno, Calif.; 70th Rplt. Depot, AAF Stone, Staffordshire; whole period overseas, Sept. 24, 1943-Nov. 9, 1945.

Decorations: Am. Defense Service; World War II Victory; Am. Camp; European-African; Middle Eastern; Meritorious Unit Award.

Separated: Feb. 15, 1946.

Herbert R. Blouch

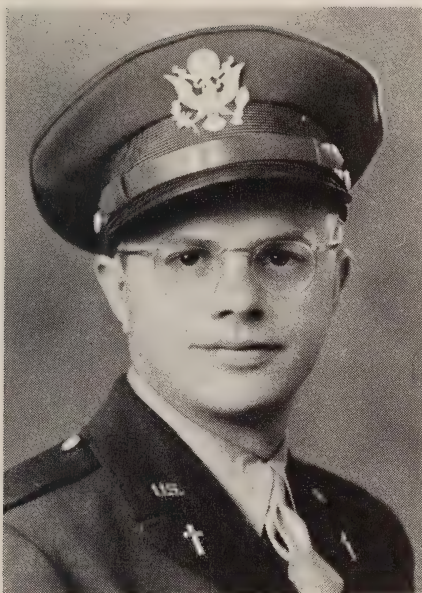
Commissioned: 1st Lieut., April 14, 1943, AUS Corps of Chaplains; promoted, Capt., May 27, 1944; Maj., Dec. 1945.

Training: Chap's School, Harvard Univ., April 14 to June 5, 1943.

Duty: Hdqrs, 2nd Air Force, Colo. Springs, Colo., June 1943; Base Chap. Grand Island Air Base, Neb., June 18, 1943; Gr. Chap. 465th Bm. Gr. (H), McCook Army Air Base, Neb., Nov. 18, 1943; Combat, 15th Air Force, N. Africa, Sicily, etc., Feb. 1, 1944 to June 3, 1945; Prot. Chap. Fort Read, Trinidad, B. W. Indies, June 10 to Sept. 2, 1945; Hdqrs. Chap., 575th Base Unit, Gr. Pittsburgh Air Port, Coraopolis, Pa., Sept. 5 to Nov. 6, 1945.

Decorations: European-African; Middle Eastern, (Seven Star, Bronze); Am. Defense; Victory; Presidential Unit Cit., one oak

DISTINCTIVE SERVICES PERFORMED



Herbert R. Blouch



Russell G. Becketl

leaf cluster. Letter of Commendation from Brig. Gen. George G. Acheson, 55th Bom. Wing, 15th Air Force, May 21, 1945.

Active Duty ceased: Nov. 20, 1945. Appointed Bn. Chap. 688th Bn. Penna. Nat. Guard.

Walter Evans Deibler

Commissioned: July 8, 1943. Promoted, Oct. 3, 1945 from Lt. to Lt. CDR.

Training: Chap's. School, College of William and Mary, Va., July-Sept. 1943.

Duty: U. S. Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas, Oct. 1943-Oct. 1944. USS Gen. Wm. Weigel AP 119, Nov. 1944-June 1946; service in Atlantic and Pacific, twenty ocean crossings to England, France, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Philippines, Marshall Is., and Japan. (Chap. Deibler also saw duty in World War I.)

Decorations: Victory; Sel. Service; European-Middle Eastern; Asiatic-Pacific.

Placed on Inactive Duty: April 1, 1947.

Present Mil. Status: Mem. Vol. Naval Reserve Chap's. Unit 4-3. Rank, Lt. CDR. CHCR USNR.

John Henry Gable

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., July 23, 1945. Promoted, Capt. Feb. 27, 1947.



Thomas W. Guinivan



Walter E. Deibler

Training: Chap's. School, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., Sept. 1945.

Duty: Transport Duty, Oct. 15, 1945-April 17, 1946; Camp Lee, Va., April 17-Aug. 7, 1946; New Cumberland Gen. Depot & Disciplinary Bks., to June 18, 1947.

Decorations: American Defense; Victory.

Separated from Active Service: At Carlisle Bks., July 24, 1947.

Thomas William Guinivan

Commissioned: Lt. (jg). Promoted Lt. USNR Feb. 1, 1946.

Training: Chap's. School, College of William and Mary, Va., July-Sept. 1944.

Duty: US Naval Hospital, NOB, Norfolk, Va., Oct. 1944-June 1945; Flight Chap. Iwo Jima, Casu (F) 52, July-Dec. 1945; Naval Const. Bn., Guam, Dec. 1945-Sept. 1946; US Naval Hospital, Phila., July 1946-Sept. 1946.

Decorations: Asiatic-Pacific; American Defense; Victory.

Released: Sept. 20, 1946.

Present Mil. Status: Chap. Naval Reserve Base, Unit 4-3, Carlisle Bks.

John Wengert Luckens

Training: Chap's. School, Harvard Univ., May 8-June 5, 1943.

Promoted: Capt., April 25, 1944.

Duty: Hdqrs. AAFWTTTO, 4th Dist., Denver, Colo., May 11, 1943;

DISTINCTIVE SERVICES PERFORMED



John W. Luckens



Paul A. Miller

Asst. Post Chap. Ft. Logan, Colo, AAFWTTTO, Clerical School, June 25, 1943; Base Chap. ditto, Feb. 25, 1944; Asst. Chap. Air Trans. Command, ATC Base, Fairfield-Suisun, Calif., Aug. 14, 1945.

Decorations: American Defense; Victory.

Separated from Active Service: McClellan Field, Calif., Mar. 14, 1946.

Paul Alfred Miller

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., Sept. 30, 1942. Promoted Capt., June 22, 1943.

Training: Chap's. School, Harvard Univ.

Duty: 554th Sig. Air Warning Bn. to Jan. 24, 1943; 354th Fighter Gr. until discharged. Central Europe Air Offensive: British Isles, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Normandy.

Decorations: Distinguished Unit Citation; EAME Campaign, (Six Bronze Stars.)

Separated: Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Jan. 7, 1946.

Melvin E. Patrick

Commissioned: Lieut., June 23, 1944.

Training: Chap's. School, College of William and Mary, Va.

Duty: San Diego Naval Tr. Center, Calif.; USS Knox, Pacific.

Separated: Feb. 2, 1946.



Melvin E. Patrick



William H. Quaid

William Henry Quaid

Duty: Ft. Eustis, Va., Mar. 6-Sept. 19, 1942; Ft. Mason, Calif.; Camp Patrick Henry, Va.; and enroute overseas, Sept. 19, 1942-Feb. 6, 1943; 166th and 153rd Station Hospitals, Feb. 6-Sept. 23, 1943, at Southport, Queensland, Australia, and Port Moresby, N. Guinea; 808th Eng. Av. Bn. Sept. 23, 1943-June 1, 1945, at Oro Bay, Finchaven, and Saidor, N. Guinea; Biak, N. E. I.; and Dulag, Leyte, and Batangas, P. I.

Decorations: Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Star; Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with three stars; Victory.

Reverted to Inactive Duty: Feb. 2, 1946.

Present Mil. Status: Chap. (Capt.) ORC, 341st Gen. Hosp., Harrisburg, Pa. EPMD.

Edwin M. Rhoad

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., April 1, 1943. Promoted, Captain.

Training: Chap's. School, Harvard Univ., May 8, 1943.

Duty: Camp Sibert, Ala., Chemical Warfare Service, May 28, 1943. Units served: 1st Reg. Unit Training Center; 2nd Reg. Unit Training Center; Special Service Troops, and Military Police Bns. Camp Croft, S. C., April 14, 1945. Units served: 4th Inf. Tr. Bn.; Hdqrs. Inf. Rep. Tr. Co.; and Prisoners of War Camp. New York Port of Embarkation, Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1945.

Released: Dec. 8, 1945.



Edwin M. Rhoad



Russell L. Shay

Russell L. Shay

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., April 11, 1935. Promoted Capt., April 17, 1939; Major, Dec. 12, 1942; Lt. Col., June 19, 1946.

Training: Chap's. School, Harvard Univ., July-Aug., 1943; AF School for Chaplains, SAACC, San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 11 to 26, 1943; Aviation Psychiatry for Chaplains, Fort Logan, Colo., July-August, 1945.

Duty: 314th Inf., 78th Div., Apr. 11, 1935 to Oct. 1, 1940; AF TTC, Chanute Field, Ill., Oct. 1, 1940 to Aug. 10, 1942; AF TTC, Madison, Wis., Aug. 11, 1942 to Nov. 20, 1944; AF TTC, Buckley Field, Colo., Nov. 23, 1944 to Jan. 3, 1945; AF TTC, Amarillo, Texas, Jan. 5, 1945 to June 18, 1946.

Present service: XIX AF Service Command, Special (Command Chaplain).

Decorations: World War I Victory; Army Commendation Ribbon; American Defense; American Theater Service Ribbon; Victory.

G. Jay Umberger

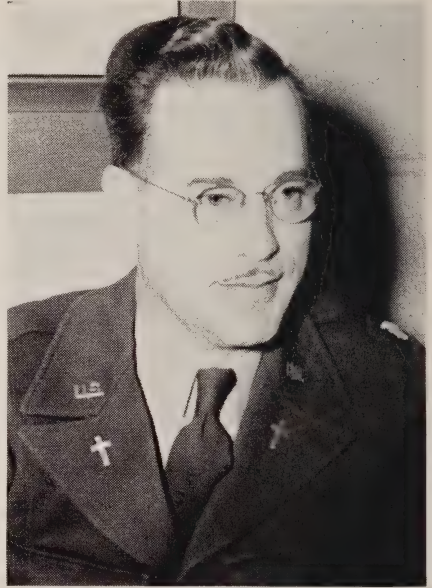
Commissioned: Lieut. (jg), Oct. 17, 1943. Promoted Lieut. CHC USNR, Feb. 1, 1945.

Training: Chap's. School, College of William and Mary, Va., Nov. 1943-Jan. 1944.

Duty: First Naval District, Boston, Mass., 9 mos.; 45th U. S. Marine Corps, Ulitui and Pelileu, 6 mos.; 87th US Naval Const. Bn.; 135th



G. Jay Umberger



Earl E. Wolf

U. S. Naval Const. Bn., official visits to Yokahama, Tokyo, and Hiroshima; USS Percidio (APA 88); 4th Reg. US Naval Tr. School, Bainbridge, Md.

Decorations: American Defense; Asiatic-Pacific (one bronze star); Victory; Atlantic-European; and USN NRCR.

Separated from active duty: Aug. 21, 1946.

Earl E. Wolf

Commissioned: 1st Lieut., Oct. 6, 1941. Promoted: Capt., June 22, 1942; Major, July 17, 1944; Lieut. Colonel, ORC, August, 1947.

Duty: Station Hosp., Pine Camp, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1941; 71st Coast Artillery, A.A., Washington, D. C., Feb. 13, 1942; Transport Chaplain to Australia, trip of 41 days, due to; 12th Station Hosp., Townsville Australia, Aug. 8 to Oct. 5, 1943; 1st Evacuation Hosp., Oro Bay, New Guinea; Finchaven, New Guinea, Jan. 22, 1944 to Jan. 5, 1945; Army Service Command, P. I.; Australia Base Section, May 1945 to Dec. 1945; 4th General Hosp., P. I.; 248th General Hosp., Clark Field, P. I., until return to the States, June 30, 1947—a total of 47 months in the Pacific Area.

Decorations: American Defense; American Theater; Pacific (three stars); Victory; Philippine Liberation (one star); and Philippine Independence.

Recent Mil. Status: Active Chaplain, Tilton General Hospital, Fort Dix, N. J. 1949; Hdqrs. Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

(Notes on Chapter X are given on page 569)

Chapter XI

THE MINISTRY OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Abels, William	1837	License	1824	1838	Surr. License ¹
Abbot, Morris	1851	License	1854	1877	Name erased
Adams, John Quincy	1895	License	1899	1902	Death
Albert, Ira E.	1876	License	1879	1887	Transfer
Albright, Isaac H.	1899	Transfer	1899	1919	Death
Allenbach, Samuel	1829	License	1829	1830	Div. of Conf. ³
Altman, Nehemiah	1873	Transfer	1873	1876	Transfer
Ambrose, William	1802	License	1808	1812	Transfer
Andrews, Henry W.	1907	License	1907	1909	Death
Arndt, Raymond H.	1913	License	1913	1915	Transfer
Arndt, Robert S.	1881	License	1885	1933	Death
Artz, W. H.	1891	License	1891	1895	Transfer
Au, Herman	1810	License	1814	1839	Div. of Conf.
Aungst, Frank C.	1923	Transfer	1921	1921	.....
Aurandt, Dietrich	1800	License	1800	1807	Withdrew
Bachman, M. E.	1894	License	1897	1908	Transfer
Baer, Allen W.	1895	License	1895	1899	Transfer
Baer, David	1820	License	1822	1846	Div. of Conf.
Baer, Jacob	1819	License	1819	1823	Death
Baer, John	1814	License	1814	1832	Death
Baer, Michael	1811	License	1811	1811	.....
Baier, William	1884	License	1887	1888	Transfer
	1895	Transfer	1895	1911	Death
Baker, Henry	1789	.....	1789	1811	Death
Balsbaugh, Peter H.	1903	License	1906	1922	Death
Baltzell, Isaiah	1872	Transfer	1856	1893	Death
Barnhart, Thomas J.	1927	License	1931	1944	Death
Batdorf, Grant D.	1897	License	1898	1921	Transfer
	1929	Transfer	1929	1929	.....
Bauer, Charles	1892	License	1895	1910	Death
Baulus, Jacob	1795	.....	1795	1825	Transfer
Baulus, Valentine	1802	License	1817	1819	Death
Baumbach, Henry	1888	License	1888	1889	Transfer
Beach, William	1889	License	1893	1929	Death
Beamesderfer, Cornwell	1914	License	1918	1918	.....
Beamesderfer, Harold E.	1945	License	1947	1947	.....
Beamesderfer, Lloyd E.	1942	License	1942	1942	.....
Beamesderfer, Samuel H.	1944	License	1944	1948	Dismissal
Beckley, Arthur S.	1905	License	1909	1914	Death
Becktel, Russell G.	1928	License	1936	1936	.....
Behney, Harvey J.	1901	License	1907	1907	.....
Behney, J. Bruce	1928	License	1933	1933	.....
Beighel, William	1837	License	1837	1839	Div. of Conf.
Beittel, Charles R.	1918	Transfer	1924	1924	.....
Beittel, Dale R.	1945	License	1945	1949	Dismissal
Bemesderfer, James O.	1937	License	1939	1939	.....
Bender, E. Ethan	1910	License	1912	1944	Death
Benedum, George	1803	License	1815	1810	Transfer
Benson, H. K.	1899	License	1899	1899	Transfer
Berger, Christian	1803	License	1805	1805	Transfer
Berger, Joseph	1828	License	1835	1839	Div. of Conf.
Biely, Alden G.	1926	License	1930	1930	.....

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Bierman, George F.....	1891	License	1893	1939	Death
Bickley, Augustus.....	1843	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Bingham, Mrs. Alta.....	1929	License	1929	.....	.....
Bingham, James.....	1923	License	1929	1946	Death
Bigler, Adam G., Jr.....	1935	License	.....	1941	Referred
Binkley, John.....	1865	License	1868	1918	Death
Bishop, James M.....	1844	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Bitzel, Peter.....	1841	License	1844	1846	Div. of Conf.
Blatt, William C.....	1926	License	1932	.....	.....
Blecher, Aaron M.....	1885	License	1888	1924	Death
Blecher, Jared R.....	1882	License	1884	1912	Death
Blouch, Gideon L.....	1913	License	.....	1919	Referred
Blouch, Herbert R.....	1933	License	1938	.....	.....
Boehm, Martin.....	1789	.....	.....	1812	Death
Boeshore, Harry F.....	1913	License	.....	1926	Death
Boger, C. U.....	1894	License	.....	1896	.....
Bolton, Joseph L.....	1875	License	.....	1881	Name erased
Bomberger, Joseph W.....	1911	License	.....	1914	Transferred
Bonawitz, Peter.....	1842	License	.....	1849	Expelled
Boring, Ezekiel.....	1825	License	1828	1846	Div. of Conf.
Bortshield, Matthias.....	.....	.....	.....	1818	Transfer
Bossler, E. A. G.....	1888	License	1890	.....	.....
Boughter, Charles E.....	1891	License	1894	1922	Death
Boughter, John W.....	1870	License	1881	1914	Death
Bowman, Edwin S.....	1903	Transfer	.....	1910	Transfer
Bowman, Peter A.....	1873	License	1878	1910	Death
Bowermaster, John R.....	1904	License	1911	.....	.....
Bowers, Herbert H.....	1940	License	.....	.....	.....
Bowers, Walter G.....	1932	License	.....	1938	Referred
Boyer, William H.....	1899	License	1902	1912	Expelled
Braezer, Jacob.....	1817	License	.....	1823	Death
Brandt, D. D.....	1912	Transfer	.....	1916	Transfer
Brane, C. I. B.....	1896	Transfer	.....	1920	Death
Breneman, Benjamin M.....	1901	License	1909	1940	Death
Bressler, Elias.....	1922	License	.....	1927	Transfer
Brewer, Jacob.....	1848	Transfer	.....	1886	Name erased
Brooks, Oliver R.....	1912	License	.....	1920	Referred
.....	1927	License	1930	.....	.....
Brown, Jacob F.....	1911	License	1917	1934	Death
Brown, George.....	1815	License	1820	.....	Transfer
Brown, John (Pa.).....	1820	License	1821	1822	Transfer
Brown, John (Va.).....	1819	License	1821	.....	.....
Brown, William.....	1816	License	1819	1837	Transfer
Buddinger, David D.....	1895	License	1899	1921	Death
Buffington, H. A.....	1885	License	1889	1899	Transfer
Burkert, C. J.....	1861	License	.....	1862	Dropped
Burkert, J. R.....	1861	License	.....	1864	Transfer
Burtner, E. O.....	1895	License	1896	.....	.....
Burtner, Henry.....	1821	License	1823	1830	Div. of Conf. ⁴
Burtner, J. Howard.....	1932	License	1933	1939	Hon. Dismissal
Butterweck, Ervin H.....	1900	License	.....	1903	Referred
Butterwick, Francis J.....	1880	License	1882	1921	Death
Butterwick, Robert R.....	1891	License	1895	1942	Death
Byers, William L.....	1888	License	.....	1889	Transfer
Carl, O. E.....	1914	Transfer	.....	1919	Referred
Carmony, Jacob.....	1837	License	1843	1846	Div. of Conf.
Carpenter, Israel.....	1852	License	1855	1890	Death

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Castetter, Edward F.....	1915	License	....	1921	Name erased
Cathlow, Richard.....	1828	License	....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Cavanaugh, George.....	1892	Transfer	1894	1897	Transfer
Chamberline, James.....	1852	License	....	1861	Name dropped
Christ, Robert.....	1944	License	....	1946	Hon. Dismissal
Clair, Horace.....	1889	License	1891	1895	Hon. Dismissal
Clair, John G.....	1859	License	1863	1882	Death
Clemm, Jacob A.....	1889	Transfer	....	1891	Death
Combs, Isaac.....	1837	License	....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Comrey, E. S.....	1909	License	1915	1916	Transfer
Conery, J. Willis.....	1874	License	....	1876	Expelled
Cook, Samuel.....	1844	License	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Cowling, J. P.....	1887	License	1890	1894	Transfer
Crall, Lloyd H.....	1943	License	....	....	....
Cramer, Jacob.....	1844	License	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Cramer, William.....	1831	License	....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Craumer, Lewis W.....	1850	License	1853	1900	Death
Crider, Christian S.....	1835	License	1839	1850	Death
Crider, John.....	1812	License	1817	1842	Death
Crider, Tobias.....	1837	License	1841	1846	Div. of Conf.
Crum, Christian.....	1791	....	1815	1820	Death
Crum, Henry.....	1800	....	....	....	....
Crumling, Christian.....	1829	License	1838	1839	Div. of Conf.
Curry, Conrad K.....	1920	License	1928	1929	Death
Darkes, Mrs. Ethel H.....	1933	....	....	....	....
Daugherty, Benjamin F.....	1911	Transfer	1892	1944	Death
Daugherty, Joseph.....	1910	Transfer	1892	1943	Death
Daugherty, Joseph B.....	1856	License	1859	1899	Death
Daugherty, Samuel F.....	1901	Transfer	....	1905	Transfer
.....	1914	Transfer	....	1920	Transfer
Daugherty, Sealon S.....	1887	License	1891	1913	Death
Daugherty, William E.....	1915	Transfer	....	1921	Transfer
.....	1922	Transfer	....	1927	Death
Deaven, Harry W.....	1936	License	1941	....	....
Debold, Jacob.....	1825	License	....	1834	Expelled
Dehoff, Jacob.....	1805	License	1815	1830	Div. of Conf.
Dehoff, John.....	1828	License	1830	1844	Death
Deibler, Walter E.....	1920	License	1925	....	....
Deitrich, Philip.....	1882	Transfer	1878	1903	Death
Deitrich, Samuel K.....	1869	Transfer	1871	1873	Death
Deitrich, Wesley.....	1855	License	1858	1896	Death
Deitzler, Jonathan C.....	1917	Transfer	1918	....	....
Dening, John.....	1842	License	1854	1846	Div. of Conf.
Denlinger, H. F.....	1888	License	....	1889	Hon. Discharge
Denlinger, H. T.....	1895	Transfer	....	1901	Withdrew Irr.
Detweiler, Peter C.....	1872	License	1874	1889	Lic. Returned
Detweiler, William H.....	1871	License	....	1875	Name erased
Dewinni, Daniel.....	1829	License	....	1832	Expelled
Dissinger, Henry.....	1871	License	1881	1887	Death
Dissinger, William.....	1871	License	....	1874	Transfer
Doerkson, Jacob.....	1852	License	1855	1891	Death
Dohner, Hiram B.....	1878	License	1881	1905	Death
Donahue, James.....	1820	License	....	....	....
Doyle, George A.....	1888	License	....	1889	Hon. Dismissal
Doyle, Martin P.....	1882	Transfer	....	1889	Surr. License
Dresbach, Simon.....	1825	License	1827	1861	Transfer
Draksel, Abraham.....	1789	....	....	1825	Death

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Druckenbrod, Frank E.	1926	License	1932	....	....
Duckwalt, Frederick	1805	.....	.....	.....	.....
Duckwalt, Ludwig	1801	License	1802	.....	.....
Duma, John	1831	License	.....	1832	Death
Duennebie, H.	1892	License	1895	1895	Transfer
Dundore, Samuel T.	1917	License	1922	.....	.....
Dundore, Mrs. Samuel T.	1923	License	1923	.....	.....
Dunham, John H.	1921	License	1926	1947	Death
Dunkelberger, Allen	1879	License	.....	1881	Transfer
Durkes, John	1829	License	.....	1832	Transfer
Early, Charles L.	1913	License	1916	1933	Death
Early, David S.	1861	License	1864	1907	Death
Eberhart, Lawrence	1805	License	1808	1812	.....
Eberly, Samuel	1832	License	1835	1846	Div. of Conf.
Eckstein, John	1827	License	1829	1830	Div. of Conf.
Edris, Regina S. A.	1925	License	.....	1933	Surr. License
Egge, William J.	1897	Transfer	.....	1903	Death
Ehrhart, Carl Y.	1940	License	1943	.....	.....
Ehrhart, Oliver T.	1908	License	1917	.....	.....
Eichelberger, George	1842	License	.....	1846	Dismissal
Eichinger, H. L.	1901	Transfer	.....	1904	Transfer
Elway, James	1838	License	.....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Enck, Schuyler C.	1888	License	1893	.....	.....
Enders, George W.	1881	License	1887	1916	Death
Engel, Daniel	1841	License	.....	1843	Transfer
Enterline, Samuel	1839	License	1842	1846	Div. of Conf.
Erb, Jacob	1823	License	1825	1846	Div. of Conf.
Erb, Jacob G. ....	.....	.....	1832	1836	Dismissal
Ernst, John	1789	.....	.....	1804	Death
Esensy, Henry	1841	License	.....	1845	Expelled
Esensy, John	1841	License	.....	1843	Withdrew Irr.
Esterline, Clifford E.	1936	License	1937	.....	.....
Esterline, Lawrence	1822	License	1827	.....	.....
Eshleman, David S.	1891	License	1897	1910	Hon. Dismissal
Etter, J. Wesley	1873	License	1876	1895	Death
Etter, Robert W.	1942	License	1945	.....	.....
Etter, Russel E.	1938	Transfer	1941	.....	.....
Etter, Samuel Jr.	1870	License	1873	1907	Death
Etter, Samuel Sr.	1833	License	1835	1860	Expelled
Evers, William B.	1869	Transfer	.....	1877	Transfer
Ewig, Jacob	1829	License	.....	1834	Surr. License
Fahringer, Reuben	1870	License	.....	1878	Name erased
Fake, Norman I.	1913	License	1919	.....	.....
Falstick, Homer M.	1933	Transfer	1945	.....	.....
Faust, Samuel D.	1889	Transfer	1888	1929	Death
Fegley, D. LeRoy	1924	License	1930	.....	.....
Felmolee, Jacob	1832	License	1837	1846	Div. of Conf.
Fertig, Harry H.	1913	License	.....	1921	Death
Fetter, C. Willard	1934	License	.....	1936	Transfer
Fetterhoff, John	1819	License	.....	.....	Transfer
Fickinger, E. W.	1907	Transfer	.....	1910	Transfer
Fisher, John K.	1875	License	1876	1883	Withdrew Irr.
Fisher, Joseph	1927	License	.....	1933	Referred
Fleck, David	1817	License	1819	1839	Div. of Conf.
Fleisher, Lewis	1857	License	1864	1908	Death
Flickinger, Jacob	1816	License	.....	.....	.....
Fliegel, John	1827	License	1830	1832	Expelled

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Fliegel, Valentine.....	1803	License	....	1834	Expelled
Flinchbaugh, Frederick.....	1835	License	1841	1846	Div. of Conf.
Flurer, Francis G.....	1944	License	1946	....	....
Fohl, John.....	1836	License	1839	1853	Transfer
Fogelman, Harry E.....	1946	License	1950	....	....
Fortenbach, G.....	1791	....	....	....	....
Fortna, Ira D.....	1924	License	1931	....	....
Fortna, Raymond D.....	1923	License	1928	1932	Hon. Dismissal
Foutz, John.....	1838	License	....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Francis, J. E.....	1896	License	1899	1905	Transfer
Fridinger, Mertis V.....	1925	License	1926	....	....
Fridinger, Paul E.....	1927	License	1932	....	....
Fridinger, William W.....	1893	License	1898	1916	Death
Fritz, James G.....	1854	License	1857	1892	Death
Fry, Henry Joseph.....	1814	License	....	1815	Transfer
Fry, Phillip.....	1838	License	1841	1846	Div. of Conf.
Funk, Clifford A.....	1912	Transfer	1912	....	....
Funk, Erasmus P.....	1879	Transfer	1875	1883	Death
Funk, Ira W.....	1913	License	1918	....	....
Funk, John B.....	1878	Transfer	1874	1933	Death
Funkhouser, Daniel.....	1834	License	1837	1841	Transfer
.....	1847	Transfer	....	1858	Transfer
Gabel, Henry S.....	1882	License	1885	1914	Death
Gable, John H.....	1944	Transfer	1939	....	....
Gallagher, James.....	1838	License	1839	1843	Expelled
Gambler, Uriah.....	1878	License	1881	1920	Death
Garland, Thomas.....	1871	License	1876	1925	Death
Garman, G. D. A.....	1869	License	1876	1884	Death
Garret, P. H.....	1889	License	....	1890	Expelled
Geeting, George A.....	1789	....	....	1812	Death
Geeting, George Jr.....	1812	License	1816	1830	Div. of Conf.
Geiger, John W.....	1871	License	1875	1878	Hon. Dismissal
Geisinger, Jacob.....	1800	....	....	1807	Death
Geisinger, John.....	1814	....	....	....	....
Geist, Conrad G.....	1847	License	1853	1883	Death
Gelbach, Henry H.....	1854	License	1869	1886	Death
Geyer, George.....	1833	License	....	1859	Death
Geyer, Harvey K.....	1917	License	1922	1923	Transfer
.....	1925	Transfer	....	....	....
Gibble, Phares B.....	1911	License	1918	....	....
Gilbert, Frederick.....	1828	License	1830	1846	Div. of Conf.
Gilbert, George.....	1828	License	1832	1870	Death
Gingrich, David Sr.....	1812	License	....	1849	Death
Gingrich, David Jr.....	1833	License	1835	1874	Death
Gingrich, James M.....	1915	License	....	1924	Referred
Gingrich, Raphael A.....	1934	License	....	1936	Transfer
Gipple, Samuel R.....	1871	License	1881	1892	Death
Glick, Jacob B.....	1909	License	1913	1914	Transfer
Gockley, David W.....	1942	License	1945	....	....
Good, Michael.....	1850	License	....	1856	Death
Goodling, J.....	1882	License	....	1884	Dropped
Goodman, Benjamin F.....	1884	License	1891	1932	Death
Goodman, Chester O.....	1931	License	1938	1943	Transfer
Goodwin, William M.....	1894	Transfer	....	1899	Hon. Dismissal
Gosweiler, A. V. H.....	1873	License	....	1880	Withdrew Irr.
Gottschall, L. D.....	1915	License	1918	1922	Withdrew Irr.
Gottwald, Daniel.....	1825	....	....	....	....

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Grantz, Gottlieb.....	1841	.....	.....	1843	Withdrew
Graul, Amos.....	1872	License	1875	1902	Death
Grimm, Frederick.....	1842	License	1846	1846	Div. of Conf.
Groff, Israel M.....	1875	License	1897	1940	Death
Groff, John H.....	1874	License	.....	1881	Referred
Groff, Michael B.....	1917	License	.....	1939	Death
Groh, I. W.....	1908	Transfer	1908	1912	Transfer
Grosh, Christopher.....	1789	.....	.....	1829	Death
Gross, G.D.....	1876	License	.....	1878	Withdrew Irr.
Grosz, William G.....	1930	License	1935	.....	.....
Guinivan, Thomas W.....	1938	License	1942	.....	.....
Haas, Samuel G.....	1890	Transfer	.....	1935	Death
Hackman, A. M.....	1889	License	1891	1895	Referred
Hackman, Henry E.....	1851	License	1856	1896	Death
Haeseler, Arthur L.....	1904	License	1911	.....	.....
Hains, Peter L.....	1878	License	1886	1921	Death
Hallowell, Thomas F.....	1849	License	.....	1849	Transfer
Hallman, George W.....	1913	License	1918	.....	.....
Hamberger, William.....	1842	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Hamilton, James A.....	1889	License	.....	1890	Withdrew Irr.
Hammaker, Joseph.....	1842	License	1850	1877	Death
Handshue, John.....	1837	License	.....	1841	Withdrew
Haney, John.....	1830	.....	.....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Harner, Abraham.....	1832	License	1835	1839	Div. of Conf.
Harner, David.....	1838	License	1842	1839	Div. of Conf.
Harp, Cyrus D.....	1885	License	1886	1889	Hon. Dismissal
Hartman, Martin.....	1838	License	.....	.....	.....
Hawbecker, Peter.....	1825	License	1831	1846	Div. of Conf.
Hawthorn, Jefferson M.....	1870	License	.....	1876	Dropped
Houser, Martin.....	1833	License	1835	1839	Div. of Conf.
Heberlig, Raymond S.....	1917	License	1922	.....	.....
Heberlig, Mrs. Raymond S.....	1924	License	1924	.....	.....
Heberly, Monroe J.....	1879	License	1881	1893	Transfer
Hendricks, John.....	1825	License	1827	1830	Div. of Conf.
Hendrickson, Charles W.....	1923	Transfer	1908	.....	.....
Henninger, Daniel.....	1852	License	.....	1855	Transfer
Herindon, Adolphus.....	1837	License	.....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Herman, Peter.....	1829	License	.....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Hersh, John C.....	1839	License	.....	1842	Transfer
Hershey, Abraham (Lanc.).....	1801	License	.....	1839	Death
Hershey, Abraham (Cumb.)...	1825	License	1827	1846	Div. of Conf.
Hershey, Christian.....	1807	License	.....	1847	Transfer
Hershey, Eusebius.....	1847	License	1850	1859	Dismissal
Hershey, I. Moyer.....	1898	License	1901	1932	Death
Hershey, John.....	1791	.....	.....	1811	Death
Herr, Frederick.....	.....	.....	.....	1821	Death
Herre, Simon.....	1789	.....	.....	1821	Death
Herrold, Joseph G. W.....	1882	License	1885	1894	Hon. Dismissal
Herrold, T. A.....	1907	License	.....	1910	Referred
Hertzler, G. Edgar.....	1927	License	1933	.....	.....
Hess, George W.....	1910	License	1914	1947	Death
Hiestand, Henry.....	1813	License	.....	1815	Transfer
Higgins, Henry.....	1829	License	.....	1830	Div. of Co.nf
Hilbish, Henry.....	1858	License	1861	1864	Transfer
Hildt, John.....	1817	License	1820	.....	Transfer
Hiskey, George.....	1827	License	1830	.....	.....
Hiskey, Valentine.....	1815	License	1822	.....	.....

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Hitz, Clair M.....	1933	License	1937	1946	Hon. Dismissal
Hoffer, Henry H.....	1899	License	....	1905	Referred
Hoffer, John.....	1819	License	1829	1830	Div. of Conf.
Hoffman, Daniel.....	1836	License	....	....	....
Hoffman, David.....	1847	License	1851	1884	Death
Hoffman, Enoch.....	1836	License	1838	1846	Div. of Conf.
.....	1848	Transfer	....	1851	Transfer
Hoffman, George.....	1808	License	1816	1830	Div. of Conf.
Hoffman, George W.....	1854	License	1857	1869	Name erased
Hoffman, Joseph.....	1803	License	1813	1818	Transfer
Hoffman, John.....	1826	License	1829	....	....
Hoffman, P. C.....	1922	Transfer	....	1925	Transfer
Holdeman, Phares M.....	1903	License	1915	1926	Transfer
Hollingsworth, Chester C.....	1924	License	1925	....	....
Hollingsworth, Harold C.....	1935	License	1940	....	....
Holtzman, Mark.....	1910	License	....	1914	Referred
Holzinger, Charles H.....	1910	License	1918	1928	Death
Hossler, John.....	1839	License	....	1843	Death
Hostetter, Mark J.....	1932	License	1940	....	....
Houk, Herman.....	1830	License	....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Houk, Jacob M.....	1830	License	....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Huber, Abraham.....	1823	License	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Huber, Henry.....	1828	License	....	....	....
Huber, Samuel.....	1816	License	1819	1846	Div. of Conf.
Hughes, Ezekiel L.....	1871	License	1874	1894	Transfer
Hummel, J. Paul.....	1916	License	....	1922	Referred
Hummel, Solomon M.....	1873	License	1874	1911	Death
Houston, Thomas.....	1822	License	1830	1846	Div. of Conf.
Hussey, George St. Clair.....	1832	License	1836	1840	Withdrew Irr.
Hutzler, Charles W.....	1884	Transfer	....	1901	Transfer
Jackson, William A.....	1868	Transfer	....	1869	Transfer
Jacobs, Jeremiah.....	1853	License	....	1856	Transfer
Jenanyan, H. S.....	1900	Transfer	....	1907	Death
Johnson, John Henry.....	1892	License	1895	1898	Death
Jones, John Owen.....	1913	License	1918	1945	Death
Jones, Moses H.....	1891	License	1894	1926	Death
Kackel, W. H.....	1916	License	....	1919	Referred
Kauffman, Abraham H.....	1869	License	1872	1897	Death
Kauffman, Christian.....	1844	License	1847	1877	Death
Kauffman, Daniel M.....	1857	License	1860	1875	Name erased
Kauffman, J. Warren.....	1901	License	1908	1913	Hon. Dismissal
Kauffman, Samuel G.....	1891	License	1894	1938	Death
Keck, Benjamin K.....	1873	License	1873	1892	Death
Keene, J. Calvin.....	1927	License	....	1938	Referred
Keene, James E.....	1903	License	1907	....	....
Keiper, John A.....	1888	License	1891	1933	Death
Kelley, J. W. A.....	1897	License	....	1902	Transfer
Kemp, Peter.....	1801	....	....	1811	Death
Kephart, Cyrus J.....	1889	Transfer	....	1897	Transfer
Kephart, Henry Jr.....	1834	License	1837	1839	Div. of Conf.
Kephart, Isaiah L.....	1866	Transfer	....	1868	Transfer
.....	1878	Transfer	....	1884	Transfer
Kessler, Elias.....	1938	License	....	1940	Transfer
Kessler, Jacob S.....	1835	License	1838	1846	Div. of Conf.
.....	1858	Transfer	....	1864	Death
Kessler, Matthias.....	1801	....	....	1812	Death
Keys, W. S. H.....	1862	Transfer	1847	1878	Hon. Dismissal

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Kiefer, Hiram S.....	1903	License	1909	.....	.....
Kiefer, James S.....	1944	License	1946	.....	.....
Killian, John D.....	1874	License	.....	1887	Transfer
Kimberlein, Henry.....	1825	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kinnear, William.....	1828	License	.....	1833	Withdrew
Kiracofe, N. A.....	1893	Transfer	.....	1904	Transfer
Klein, Matthias.....	1831	License	.....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Kline, John M.....	1882	License	.....	1884	Referred
Klinger, H. M.....	1901	License	1906	1911	Transfer
Klopper, John.....	1819	License	1829	1830	Div. of Conf.
Knoll, Jonas L.....	1893	Transfer	.....	1902	Death
Knott, William.....	1829	License	.....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Kolb, George.....	1814	License	.....	.....	.....
Koons, Isaac B.....	1886	License	1889	1938	Death
Kottler, Harry.....	1910	License	.....	1911	Transfer
Krack, John.....	1825	License	1827	1835	Transfer
Kramer, Lewis R.....	1880	License	1883	1919	Death
Kratzer, E. P.....	1923	Transfer	.....	1929	Referred
Krause, August.....	1882	Transfer	.....	1885	Death
Kreider, Martin.....	1789	.....	.....	1826	Death
Krick, William.....	1921	License	.....	1925	Dismissal
Kumler, Henry Sr.....	1814	License	1816	1819	Transfer
Kunkle, John W.....	1867	License	1870	1880	Death
Kurtz, H. H.....	1901	License	.....	1902	Lic. Returned
Kurtz, J. H.....	1885	License	1891	1928	Death
Kurtz, Park B.....	1917	License	1920	1932	Hon. Dismissal
Lamey, William.....	1880	License	1883	1924	Death
Landis, George.....	1852	License	.....	1869	Name erased
Landis, Henry W.....	1852	License	1855	1864	Death
Landis, John.....	1875	License	.....	1890	Transfer
Lawson, Moses Jr.....	1837	License	.....	1841	Withdrew
Lawson, Moses Sr.....	1828	License	1830	1839	Div. of Conf.
Leacock, W. J.....	1861	License	.....	1861	Transfer
Lee, George A.....	1867	Transfer	.....	1871	Name erased
LeFevre, Mary Daugherty.....	1921	License	1923	.....	.....
Lehman, Adam.....	1789	.....	.....	1823	Death
Lehman, Amos.....	1881	Transfer	.....	1917	Death
Lehman, Arthur S.....	1901	License	1910	1936	Death
Lehman, Harry D.....	1887	License	1887	1899	Death
Lehman, William H.....	1899	License	.....	1936	Death
Lehr, Conrad O.....	1888	License	.....	1908	Death
Leibold, Titus J.....	1911	License	.....	1916	Transfer
.....	1925	Transfer	.....	.....	.....
Lengle, Blanche C.....	1931	License	1934	1938	Transfer
.....	1948	Transfer	.....	.....	.....
Leshner, James M. ⁵	1880	License	1882	1889	Transfer
Leshner, Thomas.....	1844	License	1847	1870	Withdrew Irr.
Lewis, Millard M.....	1932	License	1934	.....	.....
Lewis, William.....	1835	License	.....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Lick, Artz Samuel.....	1934	License	1938	1939	Transfer
Light, Casper.....	1833	License	1835	1857	Death
Light, Ephraim.....	1858	License	1861	1869	Withdrew
.....	1884	Reinstated	.....	1900	Name erased
Light, Ezekiel.....	1865	Transfer	1858	1903	Death
Light, Felix.....	.....	.....	.....	1841	Death
Light, Henry.....	1835	License	1838	1843	Expelled
Light, Job.....	1868	Transfer	.....	1888	Death

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Light, Joel.....	1871	License	1874	1904	Death
Light, John.....	1832	License	1835	1845	Death
Light, John C. H.....	1895	License	1898	1897	Transfer
.....	1925	Transfer	.....	1950	Death
Light, Joseph F.....	1861	License	.....	1870	Death
Light, Rudolph.....	1854	License	.....	1887	Transfer
Lightner, Daniel.....	1853	License	.....	1857	Name erased
.....	1858	Reinstated	.....	1865	Surr. License
Linebaugh, Norman L.....	1906	License	1912	1920	Transfer
.....	1950	Transfer	.....	.....	.....
List, Frederick.....	1866	License	.....	1875	Name erased
.....	1880	Reinstated	.....	1912	Death
Locher, George.....	1860	License	.....	1861	Withdrew
Lohr, Martin.....	1834	License	1835	1846	Div. of Conf.
Long, A. A.....	1892	Transfer	.....	1910	Transfer
Long, David.....	1801	.....	.....	1837	Expelled
Long, David E.....	1897	License	1900	1939	Death
Long, Josiah P.....	1865	License	.....	1867	Withdrew Irr.
Longenecker, Christian R.....	1913	License	1917	.....	.....
Longenecker, David S.....	1878	License	1881	1917	Death
Loose, George A.....	1873	License	1876	1892	Lic. Returned
Loose, Henry.....	1850	License	1853	1864	Withdrew
Lorenz, E. S.....	1888	Transfer	.....	1889	Transfer
Lose, Dennis.....	1857	License	.....	.....	.....
Lowery, Daniel D.....	1879	License	1881	1881	Transfer
.....	1886	Transfer	.....	1917	Death
Lowery, Ira D.....	1910	License	1915	.....	.....
Lowery, John H.....	1856	License	1859	1908	Death
Luckens, John W.....	1927	License	1929	.....	.....
Ludwig, Esdras.....	1887	Transfer	1881	1910	Transfer
Ludwig, Christian.....	1826	License	.....	1828	Death
Lynch, Clyde A.....	1910	License	1916	1950	Death
Lyter, Joseph A.....	1888	License	1890	1940	Death
Mahorter, John.....	.....	.....	1837	1840	Withdrew
Mark, George A. Jr.....	1852	License	1855	1886	Death
Mark, George A. Sr.....	1841	License	1848	1868	Death
Mark, Harry C.....	1931	License	1932	.....	.....
Mark, Jacob H.....	1862	License	1869	1900	Death
Marker, Andrew.....	1841	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Martin, Lloyd.....	1913	License	.....	1914	Transfer
Mathias, Harry C.....	1920	Transfer	1921	.....	.....
Maulfair, Michael.....	1833	License	.....	1854	Name erased
May, Frederick.....	1835	License	1838	1846	Div. of Conf.
May, Thomas S.....	1935	License	1937	.....	.....
Mayer, Abraham.....	1800	License	1815	1826	Death
Mays, Robert V.....	1942	License	.....	1949	Withdrew Irr.
Mease, Clarence.....	1908	License	1912	1928	Dismissal
Mease, Oliver L.....	1905	License	1912	1946	Death
Meily, C. Seltzer.....	1872	License	1875	1882	Death
Meloy, Samuel.....	1845	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Mentzer, Harry M.....	1913	License	1917	.....	.....
Mentzer, Warren F.....	1932	License	1938	.....	.....
Meredith, Joseph R.....	1869	License	1872	1910	Death
Mersfelder, F.....	1884	License	.....	1885	Transfer
Michael, Thomas.....	1801	License	.....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Miller, Amos S.....	1862	License	.....	1868	Death
Miller, Christopher.....	1881	License	.....	1884	Name erased

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Miller, Clinton S.....	1884	License	1886	1927	Death
Miller, C. G. F.....	1892	License	1895	1899	Death
Miller, C. Wallace.....	1905	Transfer	1910	1911	Transfer
Miller, George.....	1834	License	1837	1839	Div. of Conf.
Miller, Grant N.....	1928	License	1935	.....	.....
Miller, Harry E.....	1894	License	1899	1947	Death
Miller, Henry M.....	1889	License	1896	1946	Death
Miller, Homer H.....	1924	License	1932	1936	Transfer
Miller, J. H.....	1881	.....	.....	1886	Name erased
Miller, J. P.....	1894	Transfer	.....	1899	Transfer
Miller, J. R.....	1886	License	.....	1893	Name erased
Miller, Milton H.....	1892	License	1896	1936	Death
Miller, Paul A.....	1937	License	1939	.....	.....
Miller, Robert J.....	.....	.....	1950	.....	.....
Miller, Thomas.....	1825	License	1828	1830	Div. of Conf.
Minnich, Samuel L.....	1865	Transfer	1857	1897	Death
Mittendorf, William.....	1887	Transfer	.....	1889	Transfer
Mohn, Henry V.....	1869	License	1872	1899	Name erased
Mohn, Samuel V.....	1870	License	1873	1879	Death
Morgan, Rufus E.....	1907	License	1913	1942	Expelled
Morrison, John E.....	1914	License	.....	1917	Name erased
Motter, William.....	1844	License	1848	1857	Transfer
Mower, A. B.....	1888	License	.....	1889	Transfer
Mower, H. H.....	1886	License	.....	1889	Hon. Dismissal
Mower, John F.....	1869	License	.....	1872	Withdrew Irr.
Mower, Samuel T.....	1876	Transfer	.....	1883	Referred
Mower, Simon S.....	1869	License	1877	1898	Death
Mower, W. Dickson.....	1873	License	1877	1887	Hon. Dismissal
Mower, Zephaniah C.....	1880	Transfer	1882	1890	Expelled
Moyer, David.....	1851	License	1857	1868	Death
Moyer, John.....	1844	License	1848	1891	Death
Mumma, Jacob.....	1849	License	.....	1855	Expelled
Mumma, Joseph C.....	1869	License	1872	1883	Withdrew Irr.
Mumma, Martin J.....	1870	License	1872	1912	Death
Musselman, John F.....	1907	License	1909	1947	Death
Mutch, Charles A.....	1887	License	1890	1942	Death
Mutch, Heber.....	1923	License	.....	1929	Name erased
Myer, Gottlieb.....	1880	Transfer	1880	1895	Transfer
Myers, Abraham R.....	1893	License	1896	1908	Death
MacDonald, Joseph R.....	1912	License	1917	.....	.....
McCurdy, Charles E.....	1908	License	.....	1909	Transfer
McKee, G. B.....	1884	License	1887	1899	Transfer
McNelly, Henry F.....	1890	License	1893	1912	Death
Neafer, Hiram.....	1872	License	.....	1878	Withdrew Irr.
Neidig, John.....	1791	.....	.....	1844	Death
Neiman, James.....	1829	License	1831	1837	Transfer
Neiswander, Isaac.....	1807	License	.....	1821	Death
Nelson, James H.....	1869	License	1872	1880	Death
Newbecker, Henry.....	1834	License	.....	1841	Expelled
Newcomer, Christian.....	1789	.....	1813	1830	Death
Nicholas, Theodore J.....	1872	License	.....	1876	Withdrew
Nissley, E. S.....	1898	License	.....	1901	Referred
Noll, Simon.....	1841	License	1845	1899	Death
Noon, Adam.....	1836	License	1839	1842	Transfer
Norcross, Isaac.....	1850	License	.....	1850	Death
Nye, Allen G.....	1894	License	1897	1948	Death
Oakes, John W.....	1913	License	.....	1916	Transfer

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
O'Farrel, David	1844	License	1847	1854	Transfer
	1869	Transfer	....	1873	Transfer
Ohnmacht, John	1908	License	....	1910	Name erased
Orner, Theodore P.	1875	License	....	1883	Transfer
Otterbein, Philip William	1789	....	1749	1813	Death
Owen, Alexander	1842	License	1845	1846	Div. of Conf.
Parmer, Charles E.	1946	License	1949	....	....
Patrick, Melvin E.	1933	Transfer	1938	....	....
Patterson, George	....	....	1828	1830	Div. of Conf.
Peace, J. C.	1904	Transfer	....	1917	Name erased
Peffley, Christian	1835	License	1839	1862	Name erased
Peiffer, Daniel	1818	License	1820	1868	Death
Peiffer, Harold S.	1939	License	1943	....	....
Peiffer, William H.	1906	License	....	1913	Referred
Peters, John	1835	License	....	1837	Transfer
Peters, Lewis	1858	License	1862	1893	Death
Pfrimmer, George	1791	....	1815	1814	Transfer
Phillips, Henry C.	1873	License	....	1908	Name erased
Pilgrim, Charles E.	1887	License	....	1890	Transfer
Potter, Isaiah	1872	Transfer	....	1874	Transfer
Potts, John	1830	License	....	1836	Name erased
Poulton, Campbell T.	1869	License	1869	1873	Death
Procasco, Charles E.	1923	License	1935	....	....
Pugh, Walter D.	1929	....	....	1936	Referred
Quaid, William H.	1925	License	1928	....	....
Quickley, John X.	1878	License	....	1908	Death
Raby, Stephen	1945	License	....	1947	Transfer
Raezer, G. Barstow	1900	License	1904	1905	Hon. Dismissal
Ranck, Ezra H.	1933	License	1934	....	....
Ranck, J. Allan	1934	License	1937	....	....
Rathfang, John	1814	License	....	1839	Div. of Conf.
Rathfang, John Jr.	1834	License	1837	1846	Div. of Conf.
Rauch, Samuel A.	1900	License	1909	1901	Transfer
	1918	Transfer	....	1944	Death
Raver, C. W.	1885	Transfer	1885	1888	Expelled
Raysor, John	1838	License	....	1850	Death
Reber, Calvin H. Jr.	1934	License	1939	....	....
Reel, Frederick	1889	License	....	1893	Name erased
Reeser, David M.	1859	License	....	1865	Death
Reider, George	1858	License	1863	1870	Name erased
Reider, John	1822	License	1825	1839	Div. of Conf.
Reitzel, J. R.	1870	License	1874	1881	Hon. Dismissal
Renn, U. S. G.	1888	License	1890	1912	Death
Renshaw, E. J.	1905	Transfer	....	1911	Transfer
Renshaw, G. B.	1905	Transfer	....	1911	Transfer
Rettew, Chester E.	1912	License	1915	....	....
Rice, H. S.	1875	License	....	1888	Removed
Richabaugh, Clyde	1927	License	....	1931	Removed
Richie, Gustavus A.	1911	License	1917	....	....
Richter, George M.	1906	License	....	1938	Transfer
Riegel, Adam	1800	....	....	1822	Death
Riddle, Jeremiah S.	1879	Transfer	....	1880	Death
Rigor, G. W. Miles	1862	Transfer	1860	1906	Death
Riland, Paul J.	1853	License	1857	1891	Name erased
Rinehart, Jacob	1830	License	1832	1830	Div. of Conf.
Rinehart, William	1825	License	1828	1830	Div. of Conf.
Ringer, Andrew	1832	License	....	1834	Expelled

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Ritter, Jacob.....	1833	License	1835	1839	Div. of Conf.
Rittgers, J. B.....	1908	Transfer	....	1912	Name erased
Rhoad, Edwin M.....	1918	License	1925	....	.....
Rhoad, Hiram F.....	1898	License	1902	....	.....
Rhoad, William O.....	1923	Transfer	1928	1930	Hon. Dismissal
Rhoads, Solomon L.....	1895	License	1898	1941	Death
Rock, R.....	1895	Transfer	....	1899	Hon. Dismissal
Romig, Horace H.....	1902	Transfer	....	1906	Hon. Dismissal
Romig, Oscar G.....	1894	License	1898	1937	Death
Roop, Hervin U.....	1893	License	1895	....	.....
Roop, Jacob Sr.....	1820	License	1833	1875	Death
Rothermel, G. W.....	1917	Transfer	....	1942	Death
Ruhl, John.....	1868	License	....	1887	Death
Ruhloff, F.....	1885	License	1888	1892	Name erased
Runk, David.....	1831	License	1834	1839	Div. of Conf.
Runk, Irvin E.....	1896	License	1899	1914	Transfer
.....	1920	Transfer	....	1925	Transfer
Runk, Jacob.....	1857	License	1864	1915	Death
Runkel, Daniel.....	1849	License	....	1850	Transfer
Rupp, S. Edwin.....	1900	License	1904	1926	Transfer
Russell, John.....	1819	License	1822	1819	Transfer
.....	1838	Transfer	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Salt, Michael A.....	1886	Transfer	....	1906	Withdrew Irr.
Sand, John Adam.....	1841	License	1844	1854	Transfer
Sanders, Benedict.....	1791	.....	....	....	.....
Sanders, Monroe P.....	1878	License	1883	1892	Death
Sauer, William A.....	1926	License	....	1929	Transfer
Schaffer, Frederick.....	1789	.....	1813	1814	Death
Schaffer, John.....	1874	Transfer	....	1881	Death
Schaeffer, Harry E.....	1913	License	1918	....	.....
Schell, Marvin K.....	1931	License	1935	1947	Lic. Revoked
Scholde, William.....	1828	License	1829	1837	Name erased
Schollar, Jacob.....	1841	License	1843	1851	Transfer
Schriber, J. W.....	1874	Transfer	....	1876	Transfer
Schropp, Henry.....	1848	License	1851	1890	Death
Schwalm, Clarence W.....	1913	License	1919	1948	Death
Schwope, Benedict.....	1789	.....	....	1810	Death
Scott, G. W.....	1860	Transfer	....	1862	Withdrew
Seibert, Lawrence.....	1830	License	....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Seiders, Marlin D.....	.....	.....	1949	....	.....
Seiders, Samuel.....	1838	License	1841	1859	Death
Seldomridge, Isaac N.....	1900	License	1907	....	.....
Senseny, John.....	.....	.....	....	1804	Death
Senseny, Peter.....	1800	.....	1802	1807	Death
Shade, B. N.....	1868	License	....	1870	Withdrew
Shaffer, Jacob T.....	1900	Transfer	1870	1909	Death
Shaffner, Jacob S.....	1852	License	1855	1863	Transfer
Shannon, A. L.....	1890	Transfer	....	1900	Death
Shannon, Newton.....	1881	License	....	1885	Referred
Shannon, Paul E. V.....	1917	License	1920	1921	Transfer
Shay, Russell L.....	1922	License	1931	....	.....
Sheaffer, Eleanore F.....	1930	License	....	1930	Transfer
.....	1950	Transfer	....	....	.....
Sheaffer, Grant L.....	1891	License	....	1903	Withdrew Irr.
Shearer, Daniel L.....	1943	Transfer	1941	....	.....
Sheetz, Byron W.....	1926	License	1931	....	.....
Shelly, J. M.....	1889	License	1892	1902	Hon. Dismissal

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Shelly, William N.....	1880	Transfer	1880	1893	Death
Shenk, Joseph.....	.....	.....	.....	1838	Death
Sherrick, Henry G.....	1874	License	1878	1886	Death
Sherriff, William E.....	1930	License	1934	.....	.....
Shindler, George.....	1871	License	1874	1902	Death
Shires, G. W.....	1898	License	1905	1905	Transfer
Sholter, Robert H.....	1935	License	1939	.....	.....
Shoop, Charles W.....	1906	License	1912	.....	.....
Shoop, James.....	1867	License	1872	1934	Death
Shoop, Warren E.....	1908	License	.....	1909	Transfer
.....	1911	Transfer	1918	1928	Dismissal
Shoop, William C.....	1907	License	.....	1913	Hon. Dismissal
Shopp, Christian.....	1825	License	1829	.....	.....
Shroyer, Alvin E.....	1899	License	1903	1920	Death
Siechrist, Christian.....	1844	License	1847	1856	Expelled
Sipe, Russell A.....	1932	License	.....	1938	Referred
Sites, W. A.....	1904	License	.....	1905	Transfer
Sitlinger, Albert.....	1928	License	.....	1937	Referred
Sitman, John.....	1832	License	1835	1839	Div. of Conf.
Smith, George.....	1849	License	1852	1869	Withdrew
Smith, Gideon.....	1823	License	1825	1837	Expelled
.....	1845	Transfer	.....	1859	Transfer
Smith, Herbert E.....	1913	License	1918	1920	Hon. Dismissal
Smith, Jacob C.....	1843	License	1846	1846	Div. of Conf.
Smith, Jacob Paul.....	1872	License	1876	1911	Death
Smith, J. Lewis.....	1869	License	.....	1871	Name erased
Smith, Jeremiah P.....	1861	License	1868	1880	Transfer
Smith, John.....	1833	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Smith, John Christian.....	1804	.....	.....	1860	Death
Smith, John F.....	1876	License	.....	1879	Name erased
Smith, John Francis.....	1887	License	1890	1914	Death
Smoker, John G.....	1883	License	1889	1902	Death
Smoker, John L.....	1927	License	1939	.....	.....
Snavelly, Charles A.....	1903	License	1910	1944	Death
Snavelly, Jacob.....	1850	License	1853	1868	Dismissal
Sneath, E. Oscar Jr.....	1929	License	.....	1933	Death
Sneath, Isaiah W.....	1881	License	1884	1889	Hon. Dismissal
Snyder, David.....	1801	.....	.....	1819	Death
Snyder, Jacob.....	1826	License	1828	1841	Withdrew
Snyder, John.....	1812	.....	1814	1845	Death
Snyder, John G.....	1835	License	1838	1846	Div. of Conf.
Snyder, John K.....	1873	Transfer	1854	1881	Death
Snyder, William H.....	1890	License	1896	1943	Death
Snoke, Paul O.....	1918	License	.....	1926	Name erased
Sollenberger, C. A.....	1916	License	.....	1921	Referred
Souders, Bruce C.....	1944	License	1947	.....	.....
Souilliard, A. H.....	1890	Transfer	1894	1903	Withdrew Irr.
Spangler, James T.....	1911	Transfer	1895	1950	Hon. Dismissal
Spangler, Roy.....	1932	Transfer	.....	1942	Expelled
Spayd, Henry B.....	1881	License	1884	1895	Transfer
.....	1905	Transfer	.....	1914	Transfer
Spayd, Morris B.....	1885	License	1888	1896	Transfer
.....	1920	Transfer	.....	1941	Death
Spayth, Henry.....	1812	.....	1814	.....	Transfer
Speck, Benjamin.....	1835	.....	1838	1845	Transfer
Sponsler, Melvin G.....	1925	License	1934	.....	.....
Sprecher, J. W.....	1904	License	.....	1909	Transfer

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Stabley, Charles.....	1841	License	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Stabley, Henry.....	1841	License	....	1843	Expelled
Stamm, John.....	1848	License	1851	1869	Name erased
Staub, Henry.....	1841	License	1844	1851	Transfer
Staub, John R.....	1872	License	1876	1879	Expelled
Stauffer, Henry.....	1837	License	....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Stehman, Henry H.....	1872	License	1875	1888	Name erased
Stehman, Jacob.....	1849	License	1852	1892	Death
Stehman, John B.....	1842	License	1845	1887	Death
Steigerwalt, Andrew.....	1849	License	1853	1872	Death
Steiner, J. G.....	1882	Transfer	....	1926	Death
Stine, Cawley H.....	1918	License	1923	....	....
Stine, Frank L.....	1904	License	....	1905	Transfer
Stoll, George.....	1868	License	1874	1911	Death
Stonecipher, Alvin H. M.....	1933	Transfer	1922	....	....
Stoner, Samuel H.....	1942	License	1946	....	....
Strickler, Christian.....	1839	License	....	1841	Death
Strickler, Daniel.....	1791	....	....	1808	Dismissed
Strickler, David.....	1854	License	1857	1888	Death
Strickler, Earl M.....	1924	License	1930	....	....
Strickler, Warren L.....	1937	License	....	1943	Transfer
Supplee, B. C.....	1907	License	....	1908	Withdrew Irr.
Sutton, James.....	1828	License	....	1844	Death
Swank, John.....	1863	License	....	1866	Withdrew
Swartz, C. L.....	1900	License	....	1906	Referred
Swartz, Chauncey R.....	1932	License	1936	....	....
Swartz, Peter.....	1811	License	1816	1839	Div. of Conf.
Swartz, Solomon L.....	1871	License	1879	1907	Death
Tetter, James R.....	1886	License	....	1886	Death
Thomas, Michael.....	1801	....	....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Tobias, Harry M.....	1929	License	1936	....	....
Tohill, Lawrence S.....	1875	License	....	1877	Transfer
Thuma, John.....	1831	License	1835	1835	Transfer
Traub, Christian.....	1821	License	1823	....	....
Trautman, H. M.....	1899	License	1911	1914	Transfer
Troyer, Daniel.....	1805	....	1815	1810	Transfer
Uhler, Edward T.....	1932	License	1936	....	....
Uhler, William H.....	1876	License	1881	1903	Death
Uhrich, Raymond G.....	1927	License	1931	....	....
Ulrich, A. N.....	1908	License	....	1914	Referred
Ulrich, Charles Y.....	1913	License	1917	1930	Removed
.....	1933	Restored	....	....	....
Ulrich, Clarence E.....	1926	License	1930	....	....
Ulrich, Harry E.....	1913	License	....	1916	Hon. Dismissal
Umberger, G. Jay.....	1931	License	1938	....	....
Unger, A. H.....	1872	License	1875	1886	Name erased
Unger, James H.....	1871	License	1874	1895	Transfer
Vickroy, Thomas R.....	1868	Transfer	1870	1874	Name erased
VonNieda, Jeremiah H.....	1883	License	1886	1900	Withdrew
VonNieda, Solomon.....	1845	License	1848	1854	Transfer
Wagner, J. R.....	1891	License	1891	1893	Transfer
Wagner, Mark A.....	1915	License	1921	1922	Transfer
Wagner, Theodore.....	1886	License	....	1888	Transfer
Wagner, William.....	1841	License	1846	1846	Div. of Conf.
Walker, S. W.....	1876	Transfer	....	1877	Transfer
Wallace, John.....	1834	License	1837	....	....
Walters, John M.....	1891	License	1893	1945	Death

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Walters, Leroy R.....	1919	License	1922	.....	.....
Waltz, Charles P.....	1939	License	1939	1941	Transfer
.....	1943	Transfer	.....	1946	Transfer
Weaver, C. A.....	1903	License	.....	1904	Transfer
Weber, Michael M.....	1895	License	.....	1903	Referred
Weekley, M. L.....	1910	Transfer	.....	1911	Transfer
Weichand, Henry.....	1841	License	.....	.....	.....
Weidler, J. B.....	1800	Transfer	.....	1881	Transfer
Weidler, Z. A.....	1888	Transfer	1883	1917	Transfer
Weidman, Benneville E.....	1881	License	1885	1922	Death
Weidman, Gideon.....	1851	License	.....	1876	Death
Weidman, Joseph.....	1836	.....	.....	1850	.....
Weidman, Solomon.....	1851	License	.....	1869	Surr. License
Weidner, Henry.....	1789	.....	.....	1811	Death
Weirich, David.....	1875	License	.....	1880	Name erased
Weirich, Joseph.....	1873	License	1876	1881	Name erased
Wenger, Abraham.....	1836	License	1842	1855	Death
Wenger, Eugene B.....	1945	Transfer	1949	.....	.....
Wenger, Jacob.....	1814	License	1819	1846	Div. of Conf.
Wenger, John.....	1811	.....	.....	1845	Death
Wengert, Samuel B.....	1893	License	1896	1916	Death
Wenrich, David.....	1849	License	.....	1849	Transfer
Wenrich, G. W. S.....	1875	License	1878	1880	Hon. Dismissal
Werner, Stuart W.....	1935	License	1936	1937	Hon. Dismissal
Werle, Henry.....	1820	License	1820	1823	Death
Wert, Mark H.....	1906	License	1910	1923	License
.....	1930	Transfer	.....	1942	Death
White, Charles G.....	1910	Transfer	1916	1916	Transfer
Whitesell, Peter.....	1830	License	.....	1830	Div. of Conf.
Wier, Adam K.....	1899	License	1906	.....	.....
Wiest, Conrad.....	1819	License	1822	1830	Div. of Conf.
Wiest, George.....	1867	License	.....	1870	Name erased
.....	1881	License	.....	1883	Referred
Wilson, Franz C.....	1833	License	.....	1835	Expelled
Wilt, William A.....	1936	Transfer	1915	.....	.....
Winey, Tekoa S.....	1899	License	.....	1900	Transfer
Winter, Jacob.....	1811	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winter, John.....	1803	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winter, Thomas.....	1801	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winters, Daniel.....	1829	.....	.....	.....	.....
Witman, J. E.....	1889	License	.....	1890	Name erased
Witmer, Clayton C.....	1915	License	1915	.....	.....
Witmer, John A.....	1943	License	1946	.....	.....
Witmer, Jonas.....	1815	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Wolf, Earl E.....	1928	License	1934	.....	.....
Wolfe, Charles W.....	1944	License	1949	.....	.....
Wolfe, Ralph H.....	1929	License	1936	.....	.....
Wolfsberger, Levi.....	1850	License	.....	1858	Transfer
Woodyard, Noah.....	1829	License	.....	1830	Transfer
Yarkers, John A.....	1887	License	1897	1902	Transfer
Yeager, Amos F.....	1856	License	1859	1878	Surr. License
Yordy, Joseph.....	1811	.....	.....	1851	Death
Young, David E.....	1912	License	1917	.....	.....
Young, Henry.....	1830	License	1832	1846	Div. of Conf.
Young, Jacob.....	1858	License	1861	1861	Withdrew
Young, Joseph.....	1835	License	.....	1846	Div. of Conf.
Young, Joseph Jr.....	1844	License	1847	1901	Death

Members of the Annual Conference

Name	Admitted		Year Ordained	Membership Ceased	
	Year	How		Year	How
Zahn, John.....	1825	License	1827	1830	Div. of Conf.
Zechman, Harry W.....	1929	License	1933	.....	.....
Zeigler, Philip.....	.....	.....	1823	1828	Death
Zimmerman, Clinton D.....	1940	License	1944	.....	.....
Zimmerman, H. W.....	1878	License	1881	1903	Referred
Zimmerman, P. L.....	1856	License	.....	1857	Death
Zimmerman, Simon.....	1850	License	1853	1897	Death
Zuck, W. J.....	1904	Transfer	1884	1912	Hon. Dismissal

Notes

1. Abbreviation, Surr. for Surrendered.
2. Data following blank line under each name, in each case, pertains to the name immediately above the blank line. Each such minister entered Annual Conference a second time.
3. Abbreviation, Div. for Division.
4. Abbreviation, Hon. for Honorable.
5. This name appears also as John M. Lesher in the text.

2. Status and Service Record of Present Members

AUNGST, FRANK CLARENCE—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1917; date of Ordination, 1921. Wood River, Ill., 1915-1916; Mt. Vernon, Ill., 1916-1917; Redmon Circuit, Ill., 1917-1918; Wagner Memorial, 1919-1921; Wood River, Ill., 1921; Lebanon, West, 1921-1924; Linglestown and Colonial Park, 1924-1926; New Holland, 1926-1947; Hummelstown, 1947—.

BATDORF, GRANT D.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1896; date of Annual Conference License, 1897; date of Ordination, 1898. Allentown, Linden Street, 1898-1901; Harrisburg, Memorial, 1901-1906; Reading, Zion, 1906-1911; Lancaster, Covenant, 1911-1920; Dayton, Ohio, First Church, 1920-1929; Bishop Eastern Area, 1929-1945; Bishop Emeritus, 1945—.

BEAMESDERFER, CORNWELL—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1913; date of Annual Conference License, 1914; date of Ordination, 1918. Schaefferstown, 1914-1917; Williamstown, 1924-1928; Shamokin, Second, 1928-1934; Reading, Salem, 1934-1937; Tower City, 1937-1939; Union Circuit 1939-1942; West Willow, 1942-1948; Iona, 1948-1950; Coatesville, 1950—.

BEAMESDERFER, HAROLD E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1945; date of Ordination, 1947. Grantville and Manada Hill, 1946-1947; Shoemakersville, 1947—.

BEAMESDERFER, LLOYD—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1942. Williamstown and Tower City, 1943—.

BEMESDERFER, JAMES O.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1935; date of Annual Conference License, 1937; date of Ordination, 1939. Pottstown and Birdsboro, 1940-1946; Allentown Zion, 1946—.

BECKTEL, RUSSEL G.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1928; date of Ordination, 1936. Sinking Spring, 1925-1926; Fontana, 1926-1927; Brunnerville, 1927-1929; Tremont, 1929-1934; Lebanon, Bethany, 1934-1936; Mont Clare, 1936-1940; Silver Spring Circuit, 1940-1941; Chaplain, U. S. Army, 1941-1946; Philadelphia, Fourth, 1946-1947; Philadelphia, First, 1947—.

BEITTEL, CHARLES ROUSS—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1915; date of Annual Conference License, 1918; date of Ordination, 1924. Downs, Ill., 1917-1918; Royalton, 1918-1922; Schuylkill Haven, 1922-1928; Harrisburg, Otterbein, 1928—.

BEHNEY, H. J.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1899; date of Annual Conference License, 1901; date of Ordination, 1907. Manor Circuit, 1904-1906; Cressona, 1906-1909; Manheim, 1909-1916; Shamokin, First, 1916-1938; Columbia, 1938—.

BEHNEY, J. BRUCE—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1928; date of Ordination, 1933. Professor, Bonebrake Theological Seminary, 1935—.

BIELY, ALDEN GEORGE—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1926; date of Ordination, 1930. Lebanon, Hebron, 1925—.

BLATT, WILLIAM CARL—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1926; date of Ordination, 1932. Stoverdale, 1926-1929; Waterhouse-Rosehill, Ohio, 1929-1932; Lebanon Circuit, 1932-1933; Silver Spring Circuit, 1933-1940; Mont Clare, 1940—.

Status and Service Record of Present Members

- BLOUCH, HERBERT R.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1931; date of Annual Conference License, 1933; date of Ordination, 1938. Northampton, 1938-1941; Jonestown Circuit, 1941-1943; U. S. Army Chaplain, 1943-1946; Allentown, Grace, 1946—.
- BOSSLER, ETHAN ALLEN G.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1886; date of Annual Conference License, 1888; date of Ordination, 1890. Oberlin, 1890-1893; Lancaster, Covenant, 1893-1907; Steelton, 1907-1913; Harrisburg, State Street, 1913-1917; Retired, 1917-1918; Middletown, 1918-1921; Retired, 1921.
- BOWERMASTER, J. R.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1900; date of Annual Conference License, 1904; date of Ordination, 1911. Middleburg, Allegheny Conference, 1904; Liverpool, Allegheny Conference, 1906; Centerville, 1909-1910; Lancaster, Laurel Street, 1910-1918.
- BOWERS, HERBERT H.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1940. Northampton, 1943-1946; Hummelstown Circuit, 1946-1947; Burholme, 1947-1948; Mt. Carmel, 1948-1949.
- BROOKS, OLIVER R.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1911; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1930. Jonestown, 1912-1913; Centerville, 1913-1917; Manheim, 1929-1939; Denver, 1939-1945; Lebanon, Ebenezer, 1946—.
- BURTNER, EDWARD OTTERBEIN**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1893; date of Annual Conference License, 1895; date of Ordination, 1896. Freeport, Ill., 1896; St. John's, 1897; Philadelphia Central Mission, 1898; Hummelstown, 1899-1906; Mt. Joy, 1906-1908; Harrisburg, Otterbein, 1909; Lykens, 1910; Palmyra, First, 1910-1923; Laurelton, Linden Street, 1923-1928; Steelton, 1928-1935; Retired, 1935.
- DEAVEN, HARRY W.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1935; date of Annual Conference License, 1936; date of Ordination, 1941. Hummelstown Circuit, 1941-1942; Steelton, 1942-1949; Lebanon Trinity, 1949—.
- DEIBLER, WALTER EVANS**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1914; date of Annual Conference License, 1920; date of Ordination, 1925. Paradise, 1920-1926; Lebanon, Memorial, 1926-1930; Highspire, 1930-1943; U. S. Navy, Chaplain, 1943-1946; Pinegrove, 1946—.
- DEITZLER, JONATHAN C.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1908; date of Annual Conference License, 1909; date of Ordination, 1918. Shamokin Circuit, 1916-1918; Mt. Carmel, 1918-1920; Lykens Circuit, 1920-1922; Tower City, 1922-1925; Manor Circuit, 1925-1926; Florin, 1926-1933; Pottstown and Birdsboro, 1934-1935; Hummelstown Circuit, 1935-1938; Royaltown, 1938-1939; Catawissa, 1939—.
- DRUCKENBROD, FRANK E.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1924; date of Annual Conference License, 1926; date of Ordination, 1932. Brunnerville, 1924-1926; Pequea, 1926-1947; Retired, 1947.
- DUNDORE, SAMUEL THOMAS**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1915; date of Annual Conference License, 1918; date of Ordination, 1922. Elizabethtown, 1922-1925; Mountville, 1925-1933; Millersburg, 1933-1949; Elizabethtown, 1949—.
- DUNDORE, MABEL MORRISON**—Date of Deaconess License, 1923; date of Annual Conference License, 1923; date of Ordination, 1923. Deaconess, First Church, Canton, Ohio, 1922-1923.
- EARHART, JACOB E.**—Probationer's License, 1947. Brunnerville, 1946-1947; Lebanon Memorial, 1947-1948; Silver Spring Circuit, 1948—.
- EHRHART, CARL Y.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1937; date of Annual Conference License, 1940; date of Ordination, 1943. Professor of Philosophy, Lebanon Valley College, 1947—.
- EHRHART, OLIVER TILLMAN**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1907; date of Annual Conference License, 1908; date of Ordination, 1917. Lebanon, Hebron, 1910-1920; Lancaster, Covenant, 1920—.
- ENCK, SCHUYLER COLFAX**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1887; date of Annual Conference License, 1888; date of Ordination, 1893. Ruhl's, 1888-1891; Pottstown, 1891; Lockington, Ohio, 1892; New Holland, 1893; Manheim, 1893-1898; Columbia, 1898-1912; Philadelphia, Second, 1912-1917; Conference Superintendent, 1917-1942; Retired, 1942. Conference Superintendent Emeritus, 1943—.
- ESTERLINE, CLIFFORD E.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1935; date of Annual Conference License, 1936; date of Ordination, 1937. Aristes, 1938-1939; Tower City, 1939-1942; Shamokin Circuit, 1942-1946; Pottstown and Birdsboro, 1946-1947; Intercourse, 1947—.
- ETTER, ROBERT W.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1941; date of Annual Conference License, 1942; date of Ordination, 1945. Manor, 1944—.
- ETTER, RUSSEL EMERICH**—Record in United Christian Church; Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1938; date of Ordination, 1941. Received by transfer in Annual Conference, 1938. Iona, 1939-1948; New Holland, 1948—.
- FAKE, NORMAN I.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1919. Tower City, 1912-1914; Grantville, 1914-1916; Lebanon Circuit, 1916-1917; Hopeland, 1917-1923; Avon, 1923-1928; Lykens, 1928-1930; Lebanon, Memorial, 1930-1939; Lebanon, Bethany, 1939—.
- FALSTICK, HOMER MELVIN**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1927; date of Annual Conference License, 1929; joined by Transfer, 1933; date of Ordination, 1945. Northampton, 1932-1938; Cressona, 1938-1941; Stillwater, Oklahoma Conference, 1941-

Status and Service Record of Present Members

- 1942; Shoemakersville, 1942-1947; Stillwater, Oklahoma Conference, 1947-1948; Elizabethville, 1948—.
- FEGLEY, D. LeROY—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1921; date of Annual Conference License, 1924; date of Ordination, 1930. Ivyland Presbyterian Church, 1929-1930; Allentown, Zion, 1930-1932; Hummelstown, 1932-1947; Lancaster Otterbein, 1947—.
- FLURER, FRANCIS G.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1943; date of Annual Conference License, 1944; date of Ordination, 1946. Mt. Carmel, 1943-1945; Lebanon, West, 1945-1948; West Willow-Refton, 1948—.
- FOGELMAN, HARRY E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1946; date of Annual Conference License, 1946; date of Ordination, 1950. Enders-Powell's Valley Circuit, 1942—.
- FORTNA, IRA R.—Date of Quarterly Conference License,—; date of Annual Conference License, 1924; date of Ordination, 1931. Williamstown, 1923; Sinking Spring, 1924; Grantville, 1925-1927; Bellegrove, 1927-1928; Aristes, 1931-1932; Denver and Sinking Spring, 1932-1937; Coatesville, 1937-1947; New Holland, 1947-1948; Oberlin, 1948-1949; Lebanon West, 1949—.
- FRIDINGER, MERTIS VICTOR—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1914; date of Annual Conference License, 1925; date of Ordination, 1926. Lebanon Circuit, 1915-1916; Intercourse, 1916-1920; Highspire, 1920-1925; Palmyra, Second, 1925-1928; Millersburg, 1928-1933; Mountville, 1933-1946; Director of Audio Visual Aids, 1946—.
- FRIDINGER, PAUL EARL—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1915; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1932. Grantville, 1920-1922; Royalton, 1922-1925; Lebanon, Bethany, 1925-1930; Lykens, 1930-1935; Steelton, 1935-1942; Elizabethtown, 1942-1949; Millersburg, 1949—.
- FUNK, CLIFFORD, A.—Date of Annual Conference License, 1912; date of Ordination, 1912. Halifax, 1912-1915; Philadelphia, First, 1915-1916; Missionary to China, 1916-1921; Middletown, 1921-1925; Reading, Salem, 1925-1934; Shamokin, Second, 1934-1943; Highspire, 1943-1947; Highville, 1947-1949; Retired, 1949.
- FUNK, IRA WILHIDE—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1918. Berne, 1913-1914; Intercourse, 1914-1916; Coatesville, 1916-1919; Halifax, 1919-1921; Lebanon, Hebron, 1921-1922; Lititz, 1922-1925; Elizabethville, 1925-1930; Cleona, 1930-1933; Florin, 1933-1944; Halifax, 1944-1947; Pequea, 1947-1949; Kochenderfer's, 1949—.
- GABLE, JOHN H.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1938; date of Ordination, 1939; received by transfer from Illinois Conference, 1944. Prairie Chapel, Illinois Conference, 1937-1940; Lebanon, Ebenezer, 1940-1944; Reading Zion, 1944-1945; Chaplain U. S. Army, 1945-1947; Florin, 1947—.
- GEYER, HARVEY K.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1915; date of Annual Conference License, 1917; date of Ordination, 1922. Lebanon Circuit, 1917-1919; Miamisburg, Ohio, 1919-1925; Middletown, Pennsylvania, 1925—.
- GIBBLE, PHARES B.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1910; date of Annual Conference License, 1911; date of Ordination, 1918. Green Point, 1910; Lebanon, West, 1910-1913; Lebanon, Pleasant Hill, 1913-1915; Lebanon, Ohio, 1916; Dayton, Troy Street, Ohio, 1916-1918; Baltimore, Otterbein, 1918-1923; Palmyra, First, 1923-1946; Ephrata, First, 1946—.
- GOCKLEY, DAVID W.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1938; date of Annual Conference License, 1942; date of Ordination, 1945. Director of Public Relations, L. V. C., 1945-1948; Director of Religious and Social Relations, L. V. C., 1948—.
- GROSZ, WILLIAM G.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1929; date of Annual Conference License, 1930; date of Ordination, 1935. Philadelphia, Fourth, 1929-1931; Philadelphia, First, Asso. Pastor, 1931-1935; Brunnerville, 1935-1937; Williamstown, 1937-1942; Union Circuit, 1942-1948; Lebanon Memorial, 1948—.
- GUINIVAN, THOMAS WILLIAM—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1938; date of Annual Conference License, 1938; date of Ordination, 1942. Hummelstown Circuit, 1942-1944; United States Navy Chaplain, 1944-1947; Rockville, 1947—.
- HAESLER, ARTHUR LEE—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1904; date of Annual Conference License, 1904; date of Ordination, 1911. Pequea, 1904-1909; Birdsboro, 1909-1911; Millersburg, 1911-1917; Manheim, 1917-1926; Columbia, 1926-1938; Shoemakersville, 1938-1942; Allentown, Grace, 1942-1946; Hopeland, 1946—.
- HALLMAN, GEORGE W.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1918. Union Circuit, 1914-1917; Millersburg, 1917-1918; Lebanon, Bethany, 1918-1922; Harrisburg, First, 1922-1925; Hummelstown, 1925-1929; Harrisburg, First, 1929-1934; Sunbury, 1934—.
- HEBERLIG, RAYMOND SNYDER—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1914; date of Annual Conference License, 1917; date of Ordination, 1922. Shope's and Swatara Hill, 1916-1917; Rockville and Linglestown, 1917-1918; Cumber Heights, (M. E.), 1918-1919; Wyoming Park, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1922-1923; Lykens, 1923-1928; Avon, 1928-1929; Oberlin, 1929-1937; Pinegrove, 1937-1940; Lykens, 1940-1943; Shamokin, Second, 1943—.
- HENDRICKSON, CHARLES WESLEY—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1904; date of Annual Conference License, 1905; date of Ordination, 1908. Chillicothe, Ohio, 1908-1909; Oshkosh, Wis., (Presbyterian), 1909-1910; Scottdale, 1910-1913; Johnstown, Barron Avenue, 1913-1920; Mt. Pleasant, 1920-1922; Youngwood, 1922-1923; Steelton, 1923-1928; Allentown, Linden Street, 1928-1930; Westerville, 1930-1932; Royalton, 1933-1934; Schuyl-

Status and Service Record of Present Members

- kill Haven, 1934-1937; Reading, Salem, 1937-1943; Cleona, 1943-1946; Silver Spring Circuit, 1946-1948; Lebanon St. Luke's, 1948-1949; Retired, 1949.
- HERTZLER, G. EDGAR—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1926; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1933. Lebanon Circuit, 1933-1937; Harrisburg, Twenty-ninth, 1937—.
- HIMMELBERGER, HARRY J. P.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1945; date of Probationer's License, 1947. Lickdale, 1945-1947; Cressona, 1947—.
- HOLLINGSWORTH, CHESTER C.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1920; date of Annual Conference License, 1924; date of Ordination, 1925. Brunnerville, 1920-1921; Shoemakersville, 1921-1929, Elizabethtown, 1929-1942; Harrisburg, Sixth Street, 1942—.
- HOLLINGSWORTH, HAROLD CHESTER—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1934; date of Annual Conference License, 1935; date of Ordination, 1940. Hillsdale Circuit, 1936-1937; Dayton First Church Soc. of Friends, 1939-1940; Pinegrove, 1940-1946; Palmyra, First 1946—.
- HOSTETTER, MARK J.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1931; date of Annual Conference License, 1932; date of Ordination, 1940. Alpha Church (M. P.) Alpha, Ohio, 1937-1939; Statton Memorial, Kansas City, Missouri, 1940-1945; Reading, Zion-Lincoln Park, 1945-1949; Lincoln Park-Sinking Spring, 1949—.
- KEENE, JAMES EDWARD—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1902; date of Annual Conference License, 1903; date of Ordination, 1907. Hustontown, 1902; Intercourse, 1903; Jacksonville Circuit, 1904-1908; Denver, 1908; Lititz, 1909-1914; Lancaster, Otterbein, 1914-1918; Mont Clare, 1918-1926; Pine Grove, 1926-1933; Cleona, 1933-1943; Avon, 1943-1947; Coatesville, 1947-1950; Retired, 1950.
- KIEFER, HIRAM SHERMAN—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1902; date of Annual Conference License, 1903; date of Ordination, 1909. Union Circuit, 1904-1905; Halifax, 1905-1908; Coatesville, 1908-1910; Lykens, 1910-1915; Oberlin, 1915-1921; Mt. Joy, 1921-1929; Avon, 1929-1938; Elizabethtown, 1938-1948; Retired, 1948.
- LEFEVRE, MRS. MARY DAUGHERTY—Date of Annual Conference License, 1921; date of Ordination, 1923. Wagner Chapel, Dayton, Ohio, 1922; Drexel Park, Dayton, Ohio, 1923; Missionary to China, 1923-1927; Westerlo, N. Y., 1928; Religious Education Work, Ithaca, N. Y., 1930-1932; Religious Work, Snyder, N. Y., 1934-1936.
- LEIBOLD, TITUS J.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1908; date of Annual Conference License, 1911; date of Ordination, 1916. Michigan Conference, 1916-1920; East Ohio Conference, 1920-1925; Shamokin Circuit, 1925-1927; Catawissa, 1927-1929; Enders, 1929-1930; unemployed, 1930—.
- LENGLE, BLANCHE C.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1930; date of Annual Conference License, 1931; date of Ordination, 1934. Deaconess, Hagerstown, Md., St. Paul's Church, 1935-1946; Lancaster Covenant Church, 1946—.
- LINBAUGH, NORMAN L.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1901; date of Annual Conference License, 1903; date of Ordination, 1912. Union Deposit Circuit, 1905-1907; Florin, 1907-1909; Hershey, 1912-1916; Harrisburg First, 1916-1917; Philadelphia Second, 1917-1920; Mt. Carmel, 1949—. Member of Miami Conference 1920-1950.
- LONGENECKER, C. R.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1917. Northampton Circuit, 1913; Belle-grove, 1913-1915; Palmyra, Second, 1915-1920; New Holland, 1920-1924; Conference Evangelist, 1924-1925; Cleona, 1925-1930; Reading, Zion, 1930-1933; Conference Evangelist, 1933-1936; Lebanon, Bethany, 1936-1939; Myerstown, 1939-1947; Lickdale, 1947-1950; Retired, 1950.
- LOWERY, IRA D.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1907; date of Annual Conference License, 1910; date of Ordination, 1915. Hillsdale, 1910; Shawnee, Oklahoma, 1915-1917; Florin, 1917 unexpired term; Halifax, 1917-1919; Cressona, 1919-1921; Shamokin, Second, 1921-1923; Intercourse, 1923-1926; Manheim, 1926-1929; Reading, Trinity, 1929-1931; Tower City, 1931-1934; Intercourse, 1934-1938; Neffsville, 1938—.
- LUCKENS, JOHN WENGERT—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1922; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1929. Hummelstown Circuit, 1929-1931; Baltimore, Otterbein, 1931-1933; Reading, Zion, 1933-1943; U. S. Army Chaplain, 1943-1946; Shamokin, First, 1946—.
- MACDONALD, JOSEPH R.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1909; date of Annual Conference License, 1912; date of Ordination, 1917. New Holland, 1912-1916; Lykens, 1916-1917; Union Circuit, 1917-1927; Coatesville, 1927-1932; Harrisburg, Twenty-Ninth Street, 1932-1937; Oberlin, 1937-1948; Union Circuit, 1948—.
- MARK, HARRY C.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1928; date of Annual Conference License, 1931; date of Ordination, 1932. Lebanon, Bethany, 1932-1934; Union Circuit, 1934-1939; Royalton, 1939—.
- MATHIAS, HARRY CLEMENT—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1916; date of Annual Conference License, 1917; date of Ordination, 1921. Powl's Valley, 1919-1925; Halifax, 1925-1936; Iona, 1936-1939; Jonestown Circuit, 1939-1941; Cressona, 1941-1946; Retired, 1946.
- MAY, THOMAS F.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1932; date of Annual Conference License, 1935; date of Ordination, 1937. Harrisburg, First, 1937-1944; Hershey, 1944—.
- MENTZER, HARRY MYERS—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1917. Valley View, 1913—.

Status and Service Record of Present Members

- MENTZER, WARREN F.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1931; date of Annual Conference License, 1932; date of Ordination, 1938. Campbelltown Circuit, 1938—.
- MILLER, GRANT NATHANIEL—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1925; date of Annual Conference License, 1928; date of Ordination, 1935. Pottstown, 1927-1929; Chattanooga, Tenn., 1929-1932; Hillsdale, 1935-1936; Enders and Powl's Valley, 1936-1937; Lebanon Circuit, 1937-1940; Kochenderfers, 1940-1949; Steelton, 1949—.
- MILLER, CALVIN R.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1945. Brunnerville, 1945-1946.
- MILLER, PAUL ALFRED—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1936; date of Annual Conference License, 1937; date of Ordination, 1939. Assistant pastor, Lebanon, Salem, 1939-1942; U. S. Army Chaplain, 1942-1945; Lititz, 1945—.
- MILLER, ROBERT J.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1941; date of Probationer's License, 1947; date of Ordination, 1950. Iona, 1950—.
- PARMER, CHARLES E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1943; date of Annual Conference License, 1946. Date of Ordination, 1949. Grantville and Manada Hill, 1943-1946; Pottsdam-West Sonora, Miami Conference, 1946-1947; Liberty, Miami Conference, 1947-1949; Reading Zion, 1949—.
- PATRICK, MELVIN E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1929; date of Annual Conference License, 1931; date of Ordination, 1938. Lickdale, 1929-1931; Grantville, 1932-1939; Lebanon, Memorial, 1939-1944; United States Navy Chaplain, 1944-1946; Palmyra, Second, 1946—.
- PEIFFER, HAROLD S.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1937; date of Annual Conference License, 1939; date of Ordination, 1943. Brunnerville Circuit, 1937-1940; Potsdam, Miami Conference, 1940-1943; Philadelphia, Second, 1943—.
- QUAID, WILLIAM HENRY—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1922; date of Annual Conference License, 1925; date of Ordination, 1928. Mont Clare, 1928-1936; Halifax, 1936-1942; U. S. Army Chaplain, 1942-1945; Mt. Carmel, 1945-1948; Avon, 1948—.
- RANCK, EZRA H.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1930; date of Annual Conference License, 1933; date of Ordination, 1934. Baltimore, Otterbein, 1933-1934; Campbelltown, 1934-1938; Mt. Joy, 1938—.
- RANCK, JOHN ALLAN—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1934; date of Ordination, 1937. Allentown, Zion, 1937-1946; General Director of Young People's Work, 1946—.
- REBER, CALVIN HENRY—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1933; date of Annual Conference License, 1934; date of Ordination, 1939. Missionary to China, 1939-1942; Palmyra, Second, 1942-1946; Missionary to China, 1946—.
- RETTEW, CHESTER E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1910; date of Annual Conference License, 1912; date of Ordination, 1915. Mont Clare, 1911-1912; Kingsville, Ohio, 1914-1915; Halifax, 1915-1917; New Holland, 1917-1920; Missionary, Philippine Islands, 1920-1926; Harrisburg, First 1926-1929; Mt. Joy, 1929-1932; Allentown, Linden Street, 1932-1937; Schuylkill Haven, 1937-1941; Philadelphia, First, 1941-1947; Myers-town, 1947—.
- RHOAD, EDWIN M.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1917; date of Annual Conference License, 1918; date of Ordination, 1925. Manada Hill, 1917-1918; Hillsdale, 1919-1921; Hillsdale Circuit, summer of 1925; Ephrata, 1925-1943; U. S. Army Chaplain, 1943-1945; Lebanon, Salem, 1945—.
- RHOAD, HIRAM FRANKLIN—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1896; date of Annual Conference License, 1898; date of Ordination, 1902. Ebenezer, 1900-1901; Belle-grove, 1901-1902; Pine Grove, 1902-1904; Lykens Circuit, 1904-1907; Manheim, 1907-1909; Highspire, 1909-1917; Harrisburg, State Street, 1917-1928; Lancaster, Otterbein, 1928-1947; Highspire, 1947—.
- RICHIE, GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1909; date of Annual Conference License, 1911; date of Ordination, 1917. Jonestown, 1911-1912; Marble Collegiate, New York, (Dutch Reformed), 1913-1914; Fairfield, Ohio, (M. E.), 1915-1917; Allentown, Linden Street, 1917-1923; Philadelphia, Second, 1923-1925; Annville Church, part-time supply, 1925-1926; Professor of Religion and Greek, Lebanon Valley College, 1925—.
- ROOP, HERVIN ULYSSES—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1890; date of Annual Conference License, 1893; date of Ordination, 1895. College President, twenty-six years; Lebanon Valley, Eastern, Lincoln Memorial University; during first seven years of Eastern's Presidency (1909-1916) was Associate Pastor of local Presbyterian Church; Janesville, Wis., U. B. Church (1921-1923) while graduate Student U. of Chicago; during last year of Lincoln Memorial presidency, organized Lincoln Memorial Community Church (1920-1930) and acting pastor; Philadelphia, Second, 1930-1931; West Willow, 1931-1937; retired 1937; and Professor of Psychology, Columbus College, Washington, D. C., 1937-1939.
- SCHAEFFER, HARRY ELIAS—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1918. Lebanon Circuit, 1912-1915; Avon, 1915-1921; Penbrook, 1921—.
- SEIDERS, MARLIN D.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1946; date of Probationer's License, 1947; date of Ordination, 1949. Hillsdale, 1945-1949; Grantville-Manada Hill, 1949—.
- SELDOMRIDGE, ISAAC NEWTON—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1897; date of Annual Conference License, 1900; date of Ordination, 1907. Centerville, 1899; Hope-

Status and Service Record of Present Members

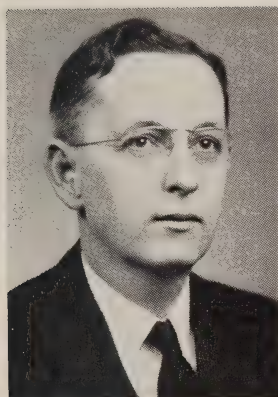
- land, 1900; Hillsdale, 1901; Harrisburg, State Street, 1902-1912; Reading, Trinity, 1912-1913; Elizabethtown, 1913-1920; Philadelphia, Second, 1920-1923; Oberlin, 1923-1929; Myerstown, 1929-1939; Manheim, 1939-1942; Retired, 1942.
- SHAY, RUSSEL LUCAS**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1921; date of Annual Conference License, 1922; date of Ordination, 1931. Manada Hill, 1923-1924; Brookfield, Mo., Missouri Conference, 1929; West Mansfield, Ohio, Sandusky Conference, 1929-1930; Lingiestown and Colonial Park, 1931-1940; Chaplain in United States Army, 1940-1946; Cleona and Pleasant Hill, 1946—.
- SHEARER, DANIEL L.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1934; date of Annual Conference License, 1938; date of Ordination, 1941. Twin Creek, Congregational-Christian Church, Ohio, 1939-1941; West Sonora, Miami Conference, 1940-1941; Silver Springs, 1941-1944; Harrisburg, First, 1944—.
- SHEETZ, BYRON W.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1924; date of Annual Conference License, 1926; date of Ordination, 1931. Powl's Valley, 1925-1928; M. P. Church, Alpha, Ohio, and Harrison-Rockville Charge, Miami Conference, 1929-1931; Reading, Trinity, 1931—.
- SHERRIFF, WILLIAM E.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1929; date of Annual Conference License, 1930; date of Ordination, 1934. Hummelstown Circuit, 1931-1932; Manor, 1932-1937; Enders and Powl's Valley, 1937-1941; Grantville, 1941-1943; Belle Grove Circuit, 1943—.
- SHOLTER, ROBERT H.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1932; date of Annual Conference License, 1935; date of Ordination, 1939. Reading, Zion, 1943-1944; Paradise, 1944—.
- SHOOP, CHARLES WILSON**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1903; date of Annual Conference License, 1906; date of Ordination, 1912. Sinking Spring, 1905-1906; Hillsdale, 1906-1909; Wagner and Aley Chapels, Miami Conference, 1909-1912; Missionary to China, 1912-July, 1950; Retired, July, 1950.
- SMOKER, JOHN LEVI**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1924; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1939. West Frederick Circuit, Va., 1924-1926; Silver Spring Circuit, 1926-1933; Neffsville, 1933-1938; Intercourse, 1938-1947; Pottstown and Birdsboro, 1947-1948; Pottstown, 1948—.
- SOUDERS, BRUCE C.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1941; date of Annual Conference License, 1944; date of Ordination, 1947. Instructor, Lebanon Valley College, 1947-1949; Oberlin, 1949—.
- SPONSER, MELVIN G.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1924; date of Annual Conference License, 1925; date of Ordination, 1934. Enders, 1924-1928; Powl's Valley, 1928-1935; Shamokin Circuit, 1935-1942; Lebanon, Trinity, 1942-1949; Asst. Supt. Quincy Or. and Home, 1949—.
- STONECIPHER, ALVIN H. M.**—Local License, 1906; Ordained a Deacon, 1912; (M. E. Church, South); Ordained an Elder, White River Conference, U. B., 1922; Professor, Indiana Central, 1917-1932; Professor of Latin, Lebanon Valley, 1932—; Dean, Lebanon Valley, 1936—.
- STONER, SAMUEL HESS**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1938; date of Annual Conference License, 1942; date of Ordination, 1946. Hillsdale, 1941-1942; Lykens, 1944—.
- STINE, CAWLEY HOOVER**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1917; date of Annual Conference License, 1918; date of Ordination, 1923. Baltimore, Otterbein, 1923-1931; Philadelphia, Second, 1931-1943; Harrisburg, State Street, 1943—.
- STRICKLER, EARLE M.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1923; date of Annual Conference License, 1924; date of Ordination, 1930. Pequea, 1923-1926; Royalton, 1926-1928; Iona, 1928-1932; Mt. Carmel, 1932-1939; Grantville, 1939-1941; Tremont Circuit, 1941-1943.
- STRICKLER, PHILIP A.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1942; date of Probationer's License, 1947. Jonestown, 1943—.
- SWARTZ, CHAUNCEY R.**—Date of Lay License, 1925; date of Quarterly Conference License, 1930; date of Annual Conference License, 1932; date of Ordination, 1936. Barry, 1928-1932; Belle Grove, 1932-1943; Highville, 1943-1947; Avon, 1947-1948; Ranck's, 1948—.
- TOBIAS, HARRY M.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1929; date of Annual Conference License, 1929; date of Ordination, 1936. Brunnerville, 1930-1935; Allentown, Grace, 1935-1942; Manheim, 1942—.
- UHLER, EDWARD T.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1932; date of Annual Conference License, 1932; date of Ordination, 1936. Jonestown Circuit, 1932-1939; Mt. Carmel, 1939-Nov., 1943; Schuylkill Haven, Nov., 1943—.
- UHRICH, RAYMOND G.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1926; date of Annual Conference License, 1927; date of Ordination, 1931. Jonestown, 1926-1932; Philadelphia, Third, 1932—.
- ULRICH, CHARLES Y.**—Date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1917. Birdsboro, 1913-1916; Philadelphia, First, 1916-1930; Philadelphia, Fourth, 1933-1946; unemployed, 1946—.
- ULRICH, CLARENCE E.**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1924; date of Annual Conference License, 1926; date of Ordination, 1930. Pottstown, 1926-1927; Canadian Presbyterian Summer Work, 1928-1930; Shoemakersville, 1930-1935; Lykens, 1935-1940; Lingiestown and Colonial Park, 1940—.
- UMBERGER, G. JAY**—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1929; date of Annual Conference, 1931, date of Ordination, 1938. Birdsboro Circuit, 1930-1931; Philadelphia,

Status and Service Record of Present Members

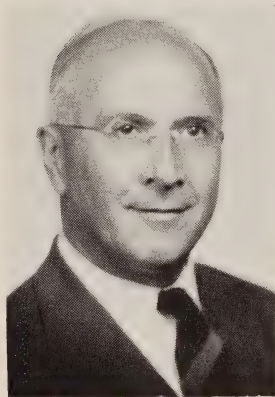
- Fourth Mission, 1931-1932; Hillsdale Circuit, 1932-1935; Hopeland, 1935-1941; Schuylkill Haven, 1941-Oct., 1943. United States Navy Chaplain, October, 1943-1946; Lebanon, Memorial, 1946-1947; Brunnerville, 1947-1948; Chaplain, Veteran's Hospital, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, 1947-1950; Lickdale Circuit, 1950—.
- WALTERS, LEROY RIDGLEY—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1917; date of Annual Conference License, 1919; date of Ordination, 1922. Cressona, 1919; Reading Zion, 1922-1924; New Holland, 1924-1926; Phillipsburg, Ohio, 1927-1928; Mt. Carmel, 1929-1932; Allentown, Grace, 1932-1935; Shoemakersville, 1935-1938; Avon, 1938-1943; Ephrata, 1943-1946; Mountville, 1946—.
- WENGER, EUGENE—Received from Brethren in Christ Church, 1945; date of Ordination, 1949. Hummelstown Circuit, 1945-1946; Fairview Church, Dayton, Ohio, Asso. Pastor, 1946-1947; Wagner Chapel, Miami Conference, 1947-1949.
- WIER, ADAM K.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1895; date of Annual Conference License, 1899; date of Ordination, 1906. St. John's, 1899-1901; Philadelphia, First, 1902; Millville, Ohio, 1903-1906; Shamokin, First, 1906-1911; Reading, Zion, 1911-1913; Steelton, 1913-1918; Philadelphia, Third, 1918-1919; Columbia, 1919-1926; Hershey, 1926-1932; Harrisburg, State Street, 1932-1943; retired, 1943-1944; West Lebanon, (supply) Apr., 1944-Sept., 1944; West Lebanon, 1944-1945; Retired, 1945.
- WILT, WILLIAM A.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1912; date of Annual Conference License, 1913; date of Ordination, 1915. Harrisonburg, Va., 1915-1916; Keyser, W. Va., 1916-1928; Martinsburg, W. Va., 1928-1935; Annville, Pa., 1935—.
- WITMER, CLAYTON C.—Date of Annual Conference License, 1915; date of Ordination, 1915; Missionary, Philippine Islands, 1915-1941; Williamstown and Tower City, 1942-1943; Missionary to the Philippine Islands, 1945—.
- WOLF, EARL E.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1927; date of Annual Conference License, 1928; date of Ordination, 1934. Philadelphia, First, 1934-1941; Chaplain U. S. Army, 1941—.
- WOLFE, CHARLES W.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1939; date of Annual Conference License, 1944; date of Ordination, 1949. Northampton Circuit, 1941-1942; Hillsdale Circuit, 1942-1944; Denver 1945—.
- WOLFE, RALPH H.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1928; date of Annual Conference License, 1929; date of Ordination, 1936. Birdsboro, 1928-1930; Manor, 1930-1932; Highville, 1932-1943; Reading, Salem, 1943—.
- YOUNG, DAVID EDWARD—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1910; date of Annual Conference License, 1912; date of Ordination, 1917. Jonestown, 1911-1914; Nappanee, Ind., 1916; Etna Green, Ind., 1917; South Bend, Ind., 1917-1919; Philadelphia, Third, 1919-1926; Harrisburg, Sixth Street, 1926-1942; Conference Superintendent, 1942—.
- ZECHMAN, HARRY W.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1928; date of Annual Conference License, 1929; date of Ordination, 1933. Brunnerville, Dec. 1929-1930; Lebanon, Bethany, 1930-1932; Pottstown and Birdsboro, 1932-1933; Pine Grove, 1933-1937; Harrisburg, Derry Street, 1937—.
- ZIMMERMAN, CLINTON D.—Date of Quarterly Conference License, 1938; date of Annual Conference License, 1940, date of Ordination, 1944. Aristes, 1944-1946; Shamokin Circuit, 1946—.

3. Pictures of Ministers

a. Ordained Elders



Frank C. Aungst



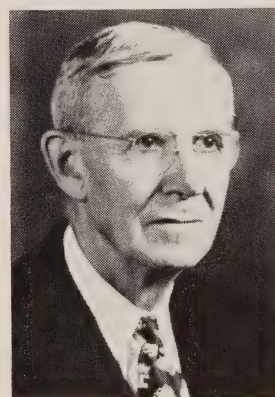
Cornwell Beamesderfer



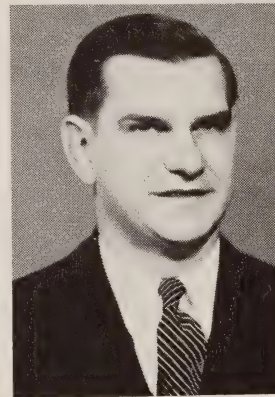
Harold E. Beamesderfer



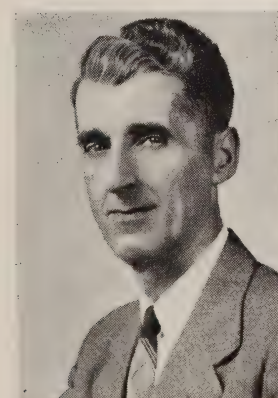
Russell G. Becktel



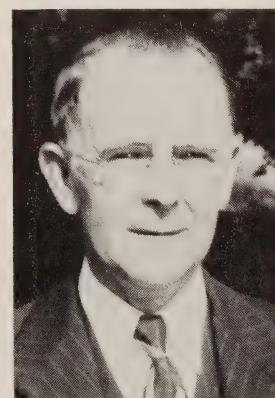
Harvey J. Behney



James O. Bemesderfer



Charles R. Beittel



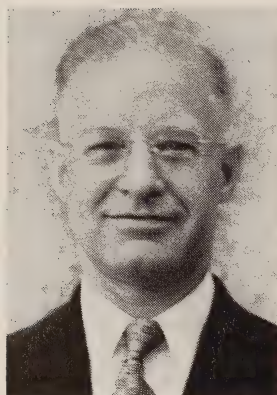
Alden G. Biely



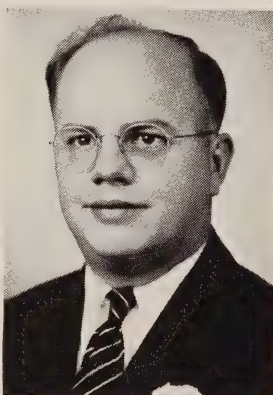
Mrs. James Bingham

Pictures of Ministers

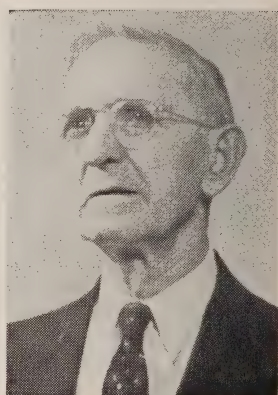
a. Ordained Elders



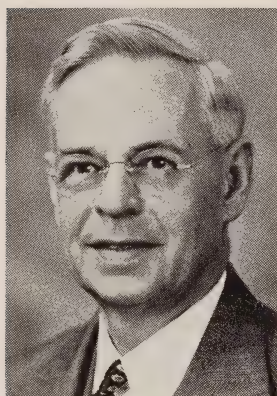
William C. Blatt



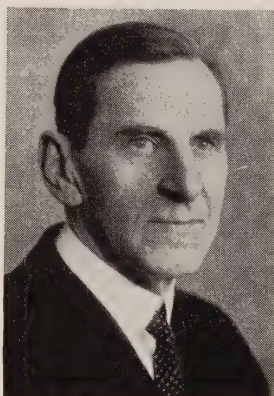
Herbert R. Blouch



E. A. G. Bossler



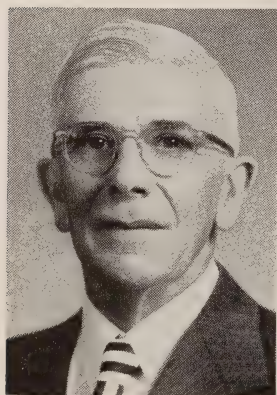
Oliver R. Brooks



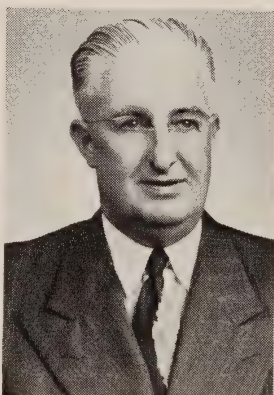
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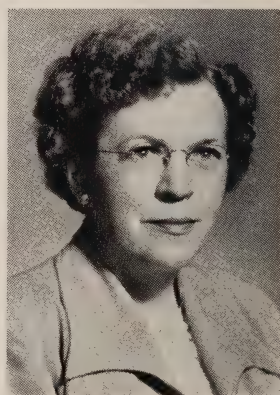
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J. C. Deitzler



Samuel T. Dundore



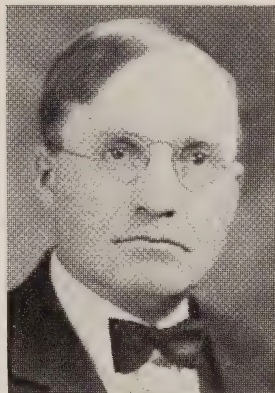
Mrs. S. T. Dundore

Pictures of Ministers

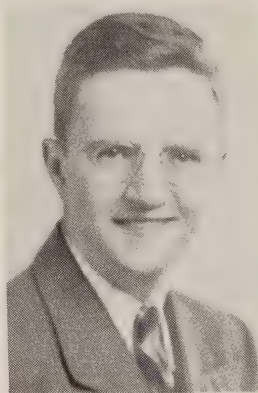
a. Ordained Elders



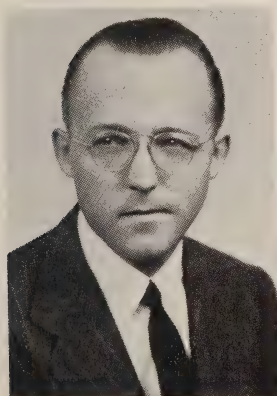
F. E. Druckenbrod



John H. Dunham



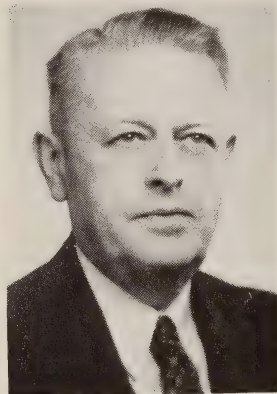
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Russel E. Etter



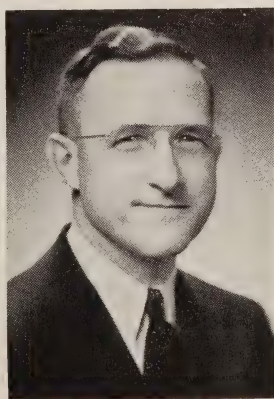
Robert W. Etter



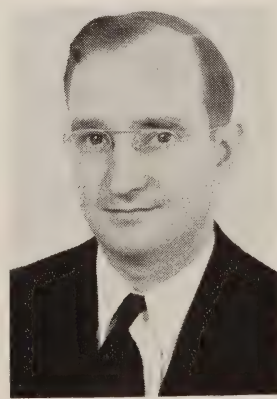
Norman I. Fake



Homer M. Falstick



D. LeRoy Fegley



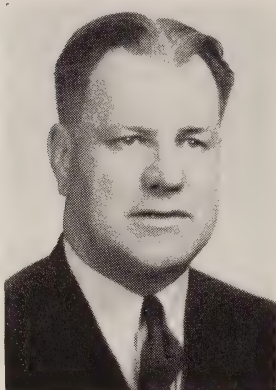
Francis G. Flurer

Pictures of Ministers

a. Ordained Elders



Harry E. Fogelman



Ira R. Fortna



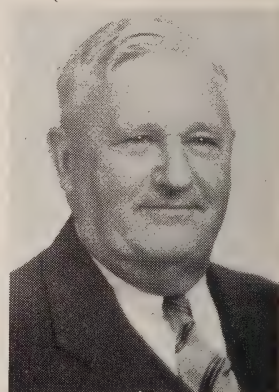
Mertis V. Fridinger



Paul E. Fridinger



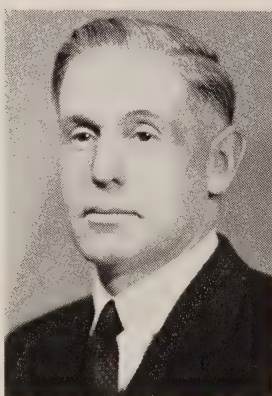
Clifford A. Funk



Ira W. Funk



John H. Gable



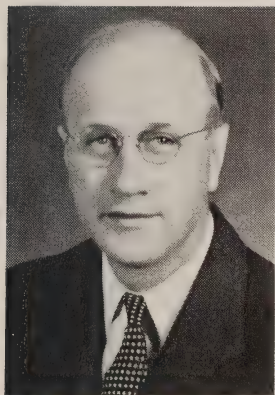
Harvey K. Geyer



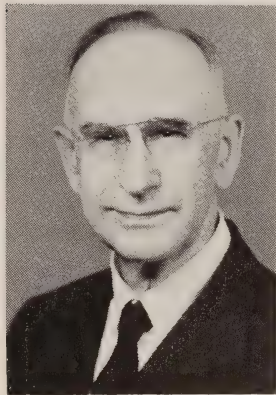
David W. Gockley

Pictures of Ministers

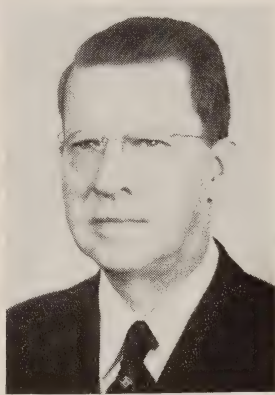
a. Ordained Elders



William G. Grosz



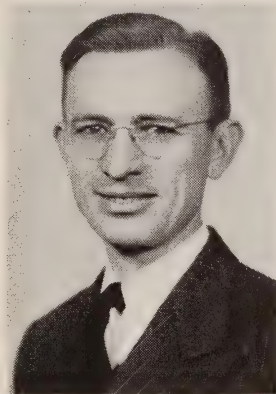
Arthur L. Haeseler



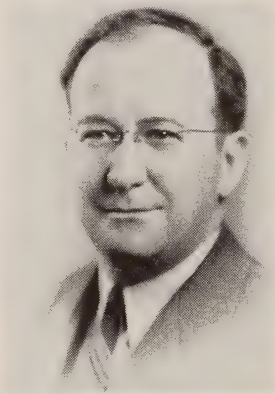
George W. Hallman



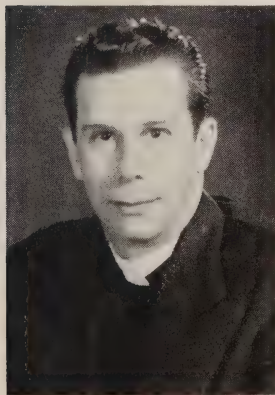
Raymond S. Heberlig



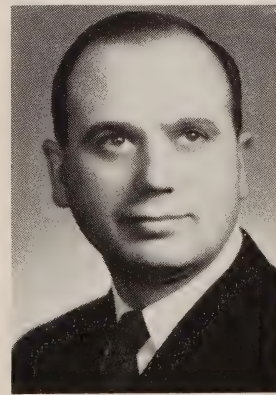
G. Edgar Hertzler



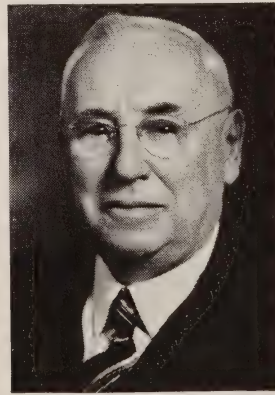
C. C. Hollingsworth



H. C. Hollingsworth



Mark J. Hostetter



Hiram S. Kiefer

Pictures of Ministers

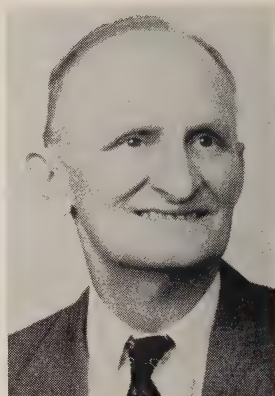
a. Ordained Elders



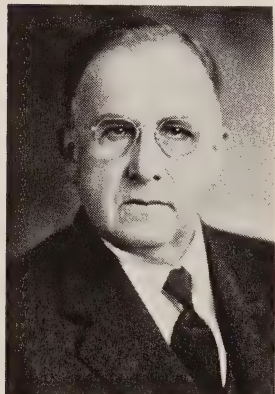
James E. Keene



Blanche C. Lengle



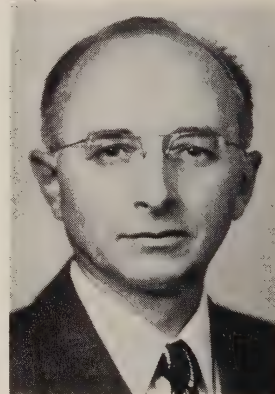
N. L. Linebaugh



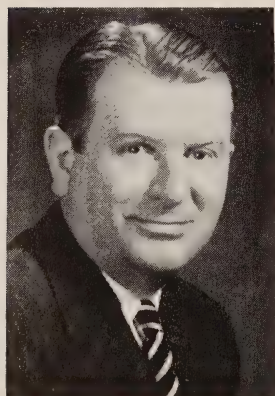
C. R. Longenecker



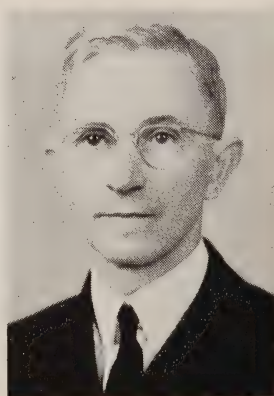
Ira D. Lowery



John W. Luckens



Thomas S. May



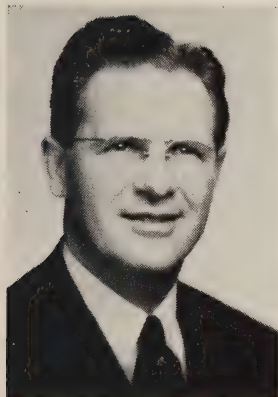
J. R. MacDonald



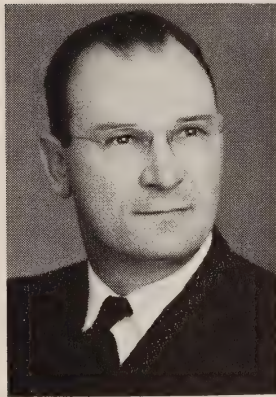
Harry C. Mark

Pictures of Ministers

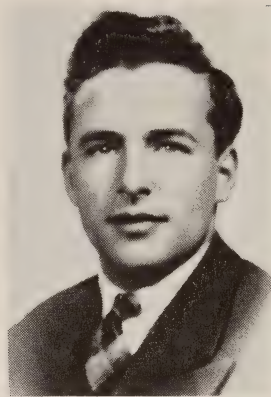
a. Ordained Elders



Warren F. Mentzer



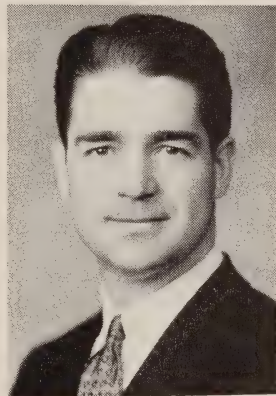
Grant N. Miller



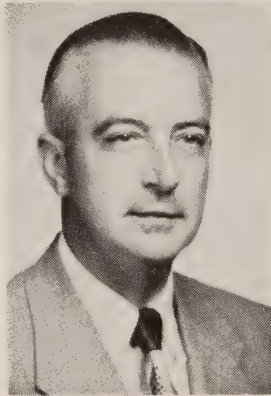
Robert J. Miller



Allen G. Nye



Charles E. Parmer



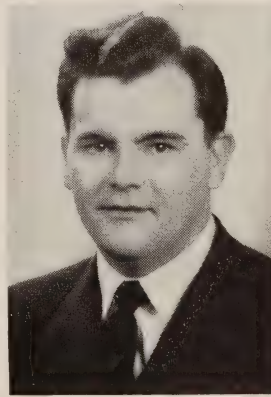
Melvin E. Patrick



Harold S. Peiffer



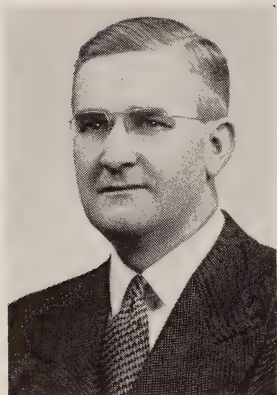
William H. Quaid



Stephen Raby

Pictures of Ministers

a. Ordained Elders



Ezra H. Ranck



Calvin H. Reber Jr.



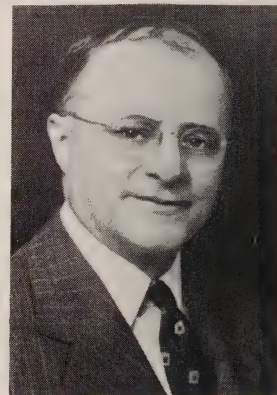
Chester E. Rettew



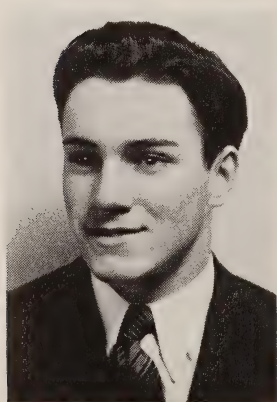
Hiram F. Rhoad



Harry E. Schaeffer



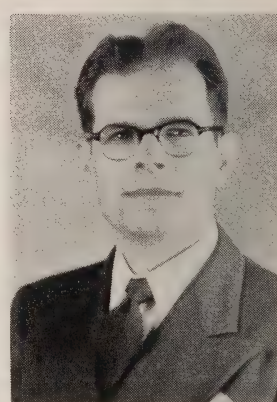
Clarence W. Schwalm



Marlin D. Seiders



Russell L. Shay



Daniel L. Shearer

Pictures of Ministers

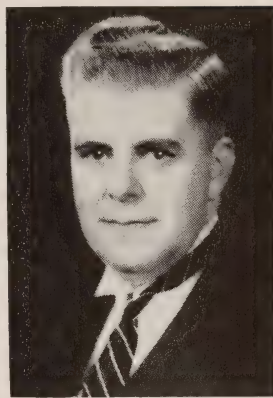
a. Ordained Elders



Byron W. Sheetz



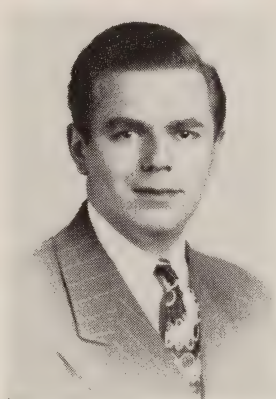
William E. Sherriff



Robert H. Sholter



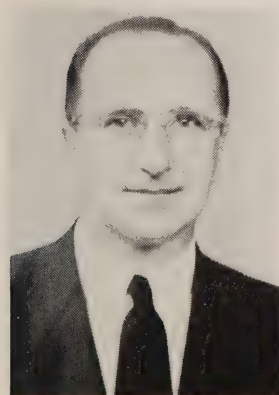
John L. Smoker



Bruce C. Souders



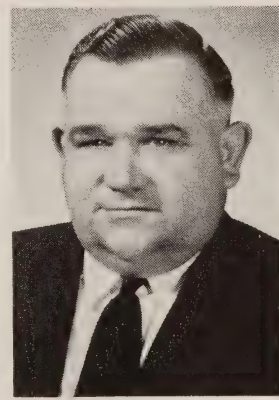
Cawley H. Stine



Samuel H. Stoner



C. R. Swartz



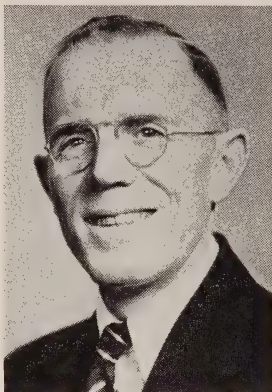
Harry M. Tobias

Pictures of Ministers

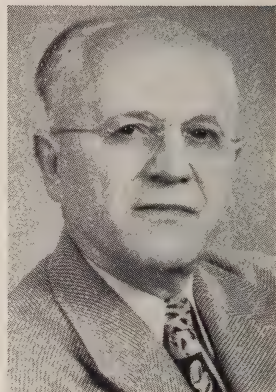
a. Ordained Elders



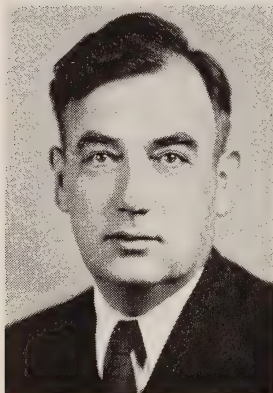
Edward T. Uhler



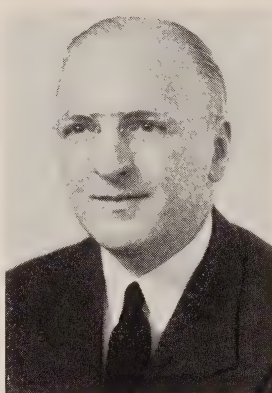
Raymond G. Uhrich



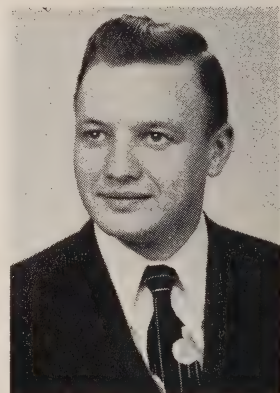
Charles Y. Ulrich



Clarence E. Ulrich



Leroy R. Walters



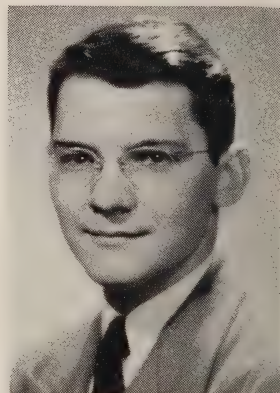
Eugene B. Wenger



Adam K. Wier



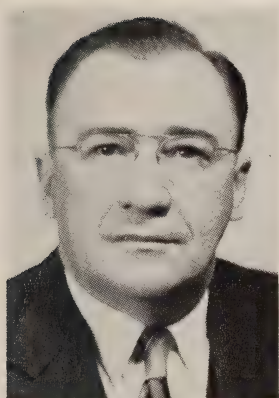
Clayton C. Witmer



John A. Witmer

Pictures of Ministers

a. Ordained Elders



Ralph H. Wolfe



Harry W. Zechman

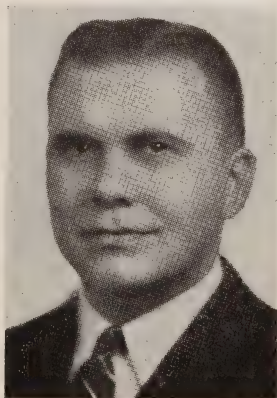


C. D. Zimmerman

b. Annual Conference Licentiates



Lloyd Beamesderfer



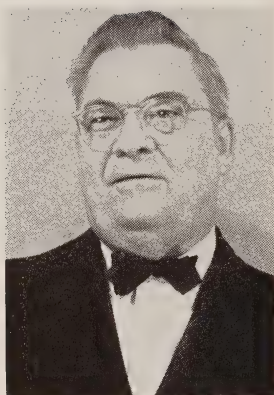
Herbert H. Bowers



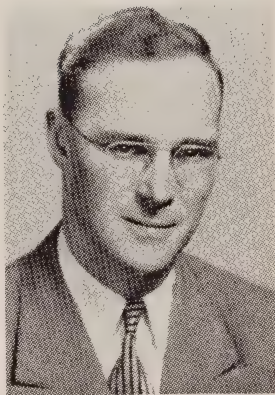
Mrs. Ethel Darkes

Pictures of Ministers

c. Probationers



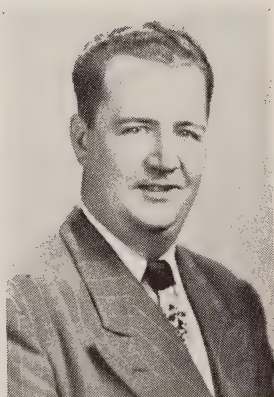
Walter G. Bowers



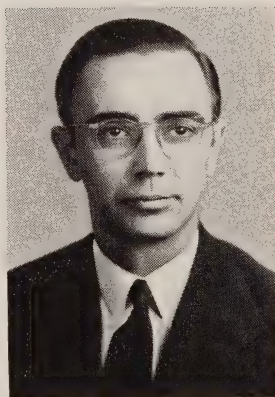
Arthur A. Boston



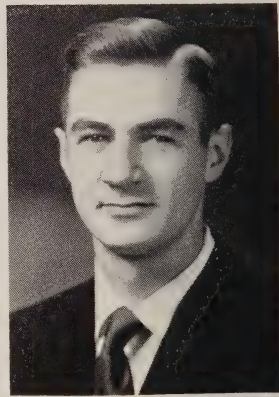
Oscar K. Buch



Ronald E. Cocroft



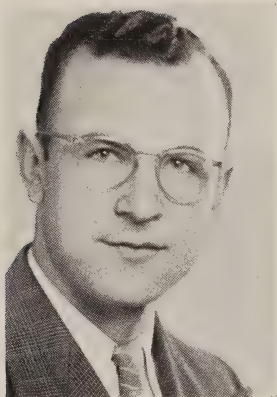
H. J. P. Himmelberger



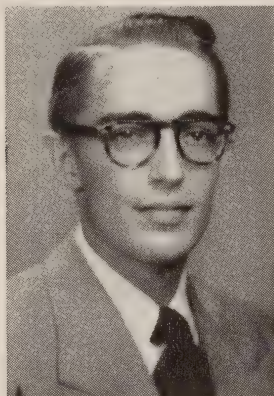
Thomas G. Hoffman

Pictures of Ministers

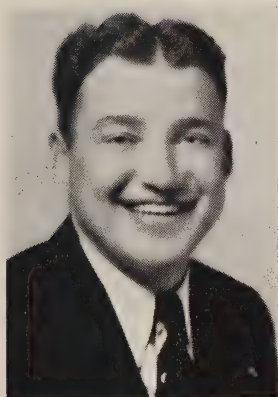
c. Probationers



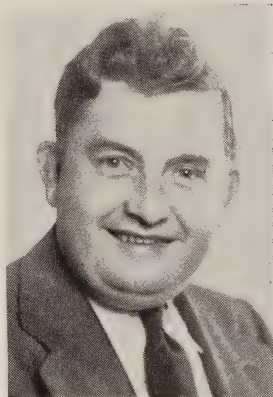
Elmer H. Horst



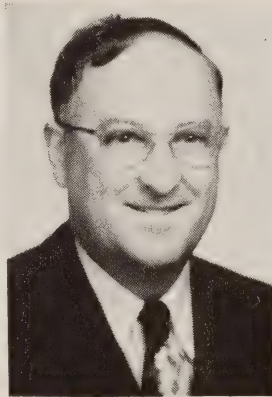
Richard D. Reifew



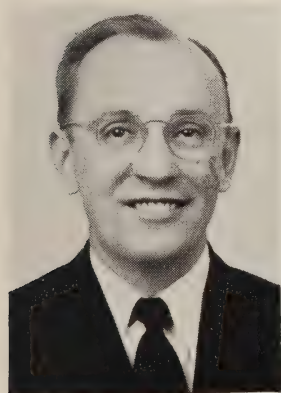
Joseph D. Smith



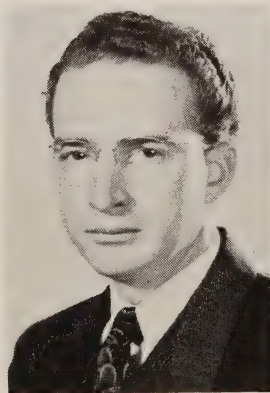
Howard H. Smith



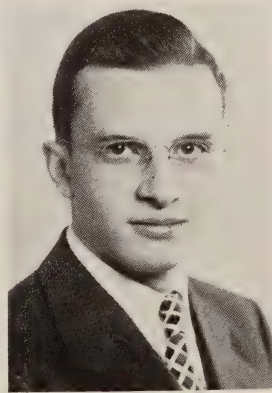
Herman E. Smith



Edward W. Steiner



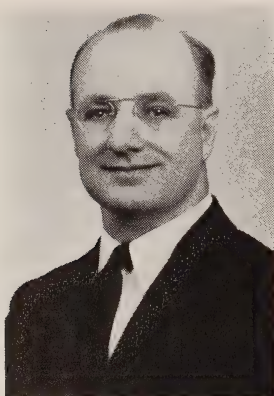
A. Philip Strickler



Richard W. Swartz

Pictures of Ministers

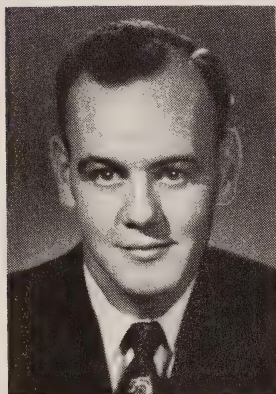
d. Others Employed by the Conference



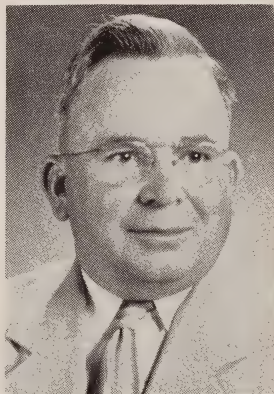
Chester W. Hartman



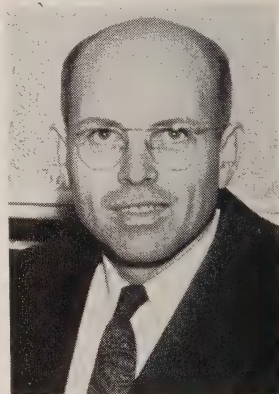
Arthur G. Miller



Tedford L. Shenefelt



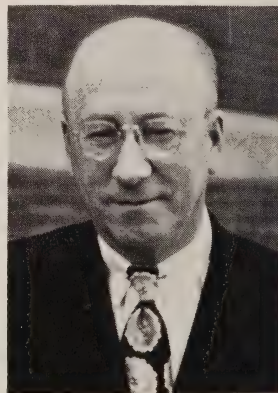
Floyd Tice



Ralph A. Wentling



Ralph D. Wolfe Jr.



Charles E. Young

4. Our Faithful Departed

Name	Born	Died	Place of Burial
Albert, Ira E.	Nov. 13, 1868	Nov. 6, 1902	West Africa
Albright, Isaac H.	April 9, 1853	April 21, 1919	Middletown, Pa.
Andrews, Henry W.	Mar. 25, 1887	June 27, 1909	Strasburg, Pa.
Arndt, Robert S.	April 29, 1856	June 26, 1923	Annvile, Pa.
Baer, Jacob.		1823	
Baer, John.		1832	
Baier, William A.		1911	Philadelphia, Pa.
Baker, Henry.		1811	Tennessee
Balsbaugh, Peter H.	Jan. 21, 1868	Sept. 5, 1922	Fishburn's, Pa.
Baltzell, Isaiah.	Nov. 26, 1836	Jan. 16, 1893	Reading, Pa.
Barnhart, Thomas J.	Jan. 2, 1892	Oct. 26, 1944	Gravel Hill Cemetery, Palmyra, Pa.
Bauer, Charles.	Mar. 18, 1850	Mar. 9, 1910	Old Moorestown Church, Pa.
Baulus, Valentine.		1819	
Beach, William.	July 28, 1852	Jan. 10, 1929	Middletown, Pa.
Beckley, Arthur S.	Aug. 8, 1884	Oct. 5, 1914	Reading, Pa.
Bender, E. Ethan.	Mar. 27, 1881	Mar. 7, 1944	Union Deposit, Pa.
Bierman, George F.	Aug. 25, 1855	Aug. 19, 1939	Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, Pa.
Bingham, James.	Dec. 14, 1884	June 22, 1946	Bear Mennonite Cemetery, Hanover, Pa.
Binkley, John.	Jan. 20, 1833	Feb. 12, 1918	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Blecher, Aaron M.	Jan. 15, 1844	Nov. 28, 1924	Myerstown, Pa.
Blecher, Jared R.	Oct. 15, 1847	April 1, 1912	Myerstown, Pa.
Boehm, Martin.	Nov. 30, 1725	Mar. 23, 1812	Boehm's Church Cemetery, Pa.
Boeshore, Harry F.	April 3, 1894	Jan. 24, 1926	Pottstown, Pa.
Boughter, Charles E.	Feb. 10, 1868	Dec. 4, 1922	Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, Pa.
Boughter, John W.	June 10, 1837	May 24, 1914	Stoverdale Church Cemetery, Pa.
Bowman, Peter A.	April 6, 1839	Sept. 25, 1910	Bowman's Cemetery, Ephrata, Pa.
Brazer, Jacob.		1823	Chambersburg, Pa.
Brane, Commodore I. B.	Dec. 25, 1848	April 7, 1920	Benevola, Md.
Breneman, Benjamin M.	Nov. 24, 1859	May 7, 1940	Silver Spring, Pa.
Brown, Jacob F.	Aug. 3, 1876	May 6, 1934	Paradise, Pa.
Buddinger, David D.	Aug. 3, 1870	Feb. 3, 1921	Gravel Hill Cemetery, Palmyra, Pa.
Butterwick, Francis J.	Mar. 14, 1846	Feb. 22, 1921	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Butterwick, Robert R.	Dec. 2, 1869	June 14, 1942	Evergreen Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Carpenter, Israel.	Oct. 17, 1824	Oct. 2, 1890	Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, Pa.
Clafr, John G.	Sept. 23, 1818	July 11, 1882	Camp Hill Cem., Florin, Pa.
Clemm, Jacob A.	Jan. 1825	April 18, 1891	Young's Church Cem., Perry County, Pa.
Craumer, Lewis W.	Sept. 16, 1827	Nov. 8, 1900	Mount Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Crider, Christian S.	Feb. 1, 1811	Mar. 7, 1850	Myerstown, Pa.
Crider, John.	April 15, 1766	June 17, 1842	Crider's Church Cem., Franklin Co., Pa.
Crider, Martin.	Feb. 14, 1740	Nov. 14, 1826	Crider Family Cem., Lebanon Co., Pa.
Crum, Christian.		1763	Winchester, Va.
Curry, Conrad K.	Jan. 18, 1896	Dec. 20, 1929	Balsbaugh's U. C. Hershey, Pa.
Daugherty, Benjamin F.	July 3, 1862	Aug. 28, 1944	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Daugherty, Joseph.	July 3, 1862	Dec. 3, 1943	New Cumberland, Pa.
Daugherty, Joseph B.	Dec. 18, 1826	May 3, 1899	Kimmerling's Church Cem., Leb. Co., Pa.
Daugherty, Sealon S.	Feb. 25, 1860	Oct. 17, 1913	Kimmerling's Church Cem., Leb. Co., Pa.
Daugherty, William E.	July 7, 1861	Sept. 16, 1927	Greenmount, Md.
Dehoff, John.	May 10, 1765	May 11, 1844	Greenmount, Md.
Deitrich, Philip.	Dec. 9, 1838	Nov. 25, 1903	Harrisburg, Pa.
Deitrich, Samuel K.	Mar. 24, 1836	Jan. 26, 1873	Harrisburg, Pa.
Deitrich, Wesley.		1827	Mar. 19, 1896
Dissinger, Henry.	Oct. 19, 1819	Aug. 25, 1887	Reinholdsville, Pa.
Doerkson, Jacob.		1823	Aug. 28, 1891
Dohner, Hiram B.	Dec. 28, 1847	Nov. 15, 1905	Shirk's Church Cem., Lebanon Co., Pa.
Draksel, Abraham.	Nov. 1, 1751	Feb. 1825	Westmoreland County, Pa.
Duma, John.		1832	
Dunham, John H.	Feb. 16, 1882	Feb. 24, 1947	Kochenderfer's U. B. Church Cemetery, Pa.
Early, David S.	May 29, 1828	July 21, 1907	Harrisburg, Pa.
Early, Charles L.	April 8, 1876	April 17, 1933	Grantville, Pa.
EGge, William J.	Jan. 30, 1820	Jan. 12, 1903	Allentown, Pa.
Enders, George W.	Jan. 6, 1836	Dec. 27, 1916	Enders, Pa.
Ernst, John.	Feb. 22, 1744	Aug. 30, 1804	East Berlin, Pa.
Etter, John Wesley.	Mar. 13, 1846	Mar. 28, 1895	Dayton, Ohio
Etter, Samuel, Jr.	Jan. 2, 1823	Sept. 20, 1907	Reading, Pa.
Faust, Samuel D.	Nov. 24, 1852	July 12, 1929	Mowersville, Pa.
Fertig, Harry H.	Aug. 6, 1871	April 5, 1921	Kochenderfer's Cemetery, Pa.
Fleisher, Lewis.	Oct. 26, 1830	Nov. 14, 1908	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Fridinger, William W.	July 18, 1862	Oct. 9, 1916	Iona, Pa.
Fritz, James G.	Mar. 25, 1832	Aug. 16, 1892	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Funk, Erasmus P.	Mar. 3, 1848	Nov. 13, 1883	Mechanicsburg, Pa.
Funk, John Belle.	Dec. 30, 1845	April 22, 1933	Mountview, Pa.
Gabel, Henry S.	July 31, 1860	April 29, 1914	Dayton, Ohio
Gambler, Uriah.	Jan. 3, 1841	Jan. 11, 1920	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Garland, Thomas.	Sept. 23, 1847	Mar. 16, 1925	East Harrisburg Cemetery, Pa.
Garman, G. D. A.	Jan. 22, 1818	Oct. 4, 1884	Kimmerling's Church Cem., Leb. Co., Pa.
Geeting, George A.	Feb. 6, 1741	June 28, 1812	Mt. Hebron, Md.
Geisinger, Jacob.		1807	
Geist, Conrad G.	Feb. 13, 1818	Dec. 25, 1883	Pillow, Pa.
Gelbach, Henry H.	May 23, 1825	July 8, 1886	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Geyer, George.	June 14, 1777	Aug. 5, 1859	Florin, Pa.

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Name	Born	Died	Place of Burial
Goodman, Benjamin F.....	April 10, 1855	Dec. 3, 1932	Summit Hill Cem., Irish Valley, Pa.
Gilbert, George.....	Sept. 12, 1805	May 2, 1870	Shiremanstown, Pa.
Gingrich, David, Sr.....	Nov. 22, 1768	Dec. 4, 1849	Family Cem. nr., Geyer's U. B. Ch. Pa.
Gingrich, David, Jr.....	Feb. 21, 1802	Sept. 4, 1874	Gingrich Farm Cem., Elizabethtown, Pa.
Gipple, Samuel R.....	Sept. 4, 1844	Nov. 21, 1892	Enders, Pa.
Good, Michael.....		1856	
Graul, Amos.....	Oct. 3, 1831	Dec. 5, 1902	Aulenbach's Cem., Reading, Pa.
Goff, Israel M.....	May 18, 1851	Feb. 11, 1940	Greenwood Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa.
Groff, Michael B.....	Oct. 24, 1864	July 3, 1939	Mennonite Cemetery, New Providence, Pa.
Grosh, Christopher.....	Jan. 12, 1749	April 16, 1829	Ranck's Church Cemetery, Pa.
Haas, Samuel G.....	July 5, 1864	April 23, 1935	Stoverdale Church Cemetery, Pa.
Hackman, Henry E.....	Sept. 15, 1824	Dec. 27, 1896	Motter's Cemetery, Lykens Valley, Pa.
Hains, Peter L.....	Oct. 10, 1847	Jan. 18, 1925	Gravel Hill Cemetery, Palmyra, Pa.
Hamacker, Joseph.....	June 1814	Aug. 1877	
Hershey, Abraham.....	Mar. 3, 1774	May 6, 1839	Hershey Family Cemetery, Creswell, Pa.
Hershey, I. Moyer.....	Oct. 3, 1876	Jan. 30, 1932	Hummelstown, Pa.
Hershey, John.....		April 4, 1811	Fahrney's Cemetery, Washington Co., Pa.
Herr, Frederick.....		1821	
Herre, Simon.....		1821	
Hess, George W.....	June 2, 1866	July 7, 1947	Geyer's U. B. Church Cemetery
Hoffman, David.....	April 18, 1823	Feb. 5, 1884	U. B. Cemetery, Myerstown, Pa.
Holzinger, Charles H.....	June 19, 1888	Feb. 2, 1928	Strasburg, Pa.
Hosler, John.....		1843	
Hummel, Solomon M.....	Feb. 2, 1839	Aug. 28, 1911	Hummelstown, Pa.
Jenanyan, H. S.....	April 25, 1858	Sept. 25, 1907	Philadelphia, Pa.
Johnson, John Henry.....	Nov. 2, 1862	July 12, 1898	Schwenksville, Pa.
Jones, J. Owen.....	Jan. 26, 1891	Jan. 27, 1945	East Harrisburg Cem., Harrisburg, Pa.
Jones, Moses H.....	Sept. 17, 1864	April 20, 1926	Reading, Pa.
Kauffman, Abraham.....		1815	Feb. 20, 1897 Washington Boro, Pa.
Kauffman, Christian.....	Mar. 5, 1798	May 2, 1877	Annnville U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Kauffman, Samuel G.....	Nov. 20, 1854	Jan. 13, 1938	Neffsville, Pa.
Kech, Benjamin B.....	Dec. 12, 1825	Feb. 25, 1892	East Texas, Pa.
Keiper, John A.....	Dec. 19, 1861	April 19, 1933	Elizabethville, Pa.
Kemp, Peter.....	June 11, 1749	Feb. 26, 1811	Doub's Cemetery, near Frederick, Md.
Kessler, Jacob S.....	Oct. 26, 1812	June 12, 1863	Mt. Kalmia Cemetery, Harrisburg, Pa.
Kessler, Mathias.....		1812	
Knoll, Jonas L.....	Mar. 22, 1847	Jan. 11, 1902	Lebanon, Pa.
Koons, Isaac B.....	Sept. 5, 1853	Dec. 21, 1938	Lutheran Cemetery, Bellegrove, Pa.
Kramer, Lewis R.....	July 9, 1853	Jan. 1, 1919	Schuykill Haven, Pa.
Krause, A.....		April 26, 1885	Baltimore, Md
Kunkle, John W.....		1880	Allentown, Pa.
Kurtz, J. H.....		Oct. 9, 1928	
Lamey, William.....	Aug. 16, 1839	Feb. 13, 1924	Chapman's Quarries, Pa.
Landis, Henry W.....	Feb. 17, 1807	Aug. 21, 1863	
Lehman, Adam.....		1732	Aug. 1823
Lehman, Amos.....	Aug. 30, 1850	April 5, 1917	Reading, Pa.
Lehman, Arthur S.....	July 7, 1878	Dec. 21, 1936	Millersburg, Pa.
Lehman, Harry D.....	Mar. 11, 1868	July 11, 1899	East Harrisburg Cemetery, Pa.
Lehman, William H.....	Sept. 1, 1855	Mar. 18, 1936	Millersburg, Pa.
Lehr, Conrad O.....	Feb. 14, 1852	May 8, 1908	Allentown, Pa.
Light, Casper.....	Sept. 7, 1804	Aug. 2, 1857	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Light, Ephraim.....	Aug. 8, 1835	Feb. 27, 1912	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Light, Ezekiel.....	Mar. 19, 1834	Nov. 4, 1903	Dayton, Ohio
Light, Felix.....	Nov. 11, 1767	Jan. 23, 1841	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Light, Job.....	Dec. 11, 1839	Dec. 14, 1888	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Light, Joel.....	Feb. 11, 1840	Feb. 24, 1904	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Light, John.....	Nov. 14, 1802	April 29, 1845	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Light, John C. H.....	Oct. 4, 1872	Mar. 24, 1950	Charles Evans Cem., Reading, Pa.
Light, Joseph F.....	Feb. 11, 1813	Feb. 22, 1870	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
List, Frederick.....		1827	Jan. 6, 1912 Bethlehem, Pa.
Long, David E.....	Oct. 2, 1869	Jan. 13, 1939	Mt. Annville Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Longenecker, David S.....	Nov. 29, 1843	Dec. 4, 1917	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa
Lowery, Daniel D.....	April 11, 1860	May 29, 1917	Enola, Pa.
Lowery, John H.....	Sept. 7, 1827	Sept. 9, 1908	Iona, Pa.
Ludwick, Christian.....		1828	
Lynch, Clyde A.....	Aug. 24, 1891	Aug. 6, 1950	Grandview Mem. Pk., Annville, Pa.
Lyter, Joseph A.....	Jan. 22, 1865	Jan. 29, 1940	Paxtang Cemetery, Harrisburg, Pa.
Mark, George A., Sr.....	Nov. 6, 1790	Dec. 26, 1868	Annnville U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Mark, George A., Jr.....	Feb. 8, 1825	Feb. 16, 1886	Annnville, Pa.
Mark, Jacob H.....	April 24, 1826	Mar. 26, 1900	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Mayer, Abraham.....		1760	Oct. 28, 1826
Mease, Oliver L.....	Oct. 10, 1883	April 27, 1946	Mt. Bethel Cemetery, Columbia, Pa.
Meily, C. Seltzer.....	Aug. 1, 1850	Dec. 18, 1882	
Meredith, Joseph R.....	July 26, 1840	April 30, 1910	York, Pa.
Miller, Amos S.....	Jan. 7, 1829	Dec. 4, 1868	Intercourse U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Miller, C. G. F.....	Dec. 8, 1859	Nov. 7, 1899	Millersville Evang. Cemetery, Pa.
Miller, Clinton S.....	Oct. 4, 1855	Nov. 11, 1927	Royalton, Pa.
Miller, Harry E.....	June 5, 1873	Feb. 5, 1947	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Miller, Henry M.....	Mar. 22, 1866	Sept. 8, 1946	Mt. Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown, Pa.
Miller, Milton H.....	May 12, 1859	Nov. 20, 1936	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Minnich, Samuel L.....	April 15, 1815		1897 Ivy Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, Pa.
Mohn, Samuel V.....	Mar. 2, 1845	June 17, 1879	Pillow, Pa.
Mower, Simon S.....	Jan. 16, 1822	Mar. 26, 1898	Oberlin, Pa.

THE MINISTRY OF THE CONFERENCE

Name	Born	Died	Place of Burial
Moyer, David.....	Dec. 11, 1824	July 6, 1868	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Moyer, John.....	Sept. 18, 1818	Dec. 27, 1891	Mt. Annville Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Mumma, Martin J.....	Mar. 9, 1840	Nov. 9, 1912	Oberlin, Pa.
Musselman, John F.....	Dec. 25, 1877	Sept. 7, 1947	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Mutch, Charles A.....	Feb. 21, 1859	June 17, 1942	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Myers, Abraham R.....	June 18, 1850	May 23, 1908	Mountville, Pa.
McNelly, Henry F.....	May 9, 1863	Oct. 1, 1912	Bellevue Cemetery, Gap, Pa.
Neidig, John.....	April 10, 1765	Jan. 11, 1844	Highspire, Pa.
Neiswander, Isaac.....		1821	
Nelson, James H.....	April 10, 1817	Feb. 24, 1880	Leverington Cem., Roxborough, Phila., Pa.
Newcomer, Christian.....	Jan. 21, 1749	Mar. 12, 1830	Beaver Creek Church Cemetery
Noll, Simon.....	Nov. 2, 1817	Nov. 8, 1899	U. B. Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Norcross, Isaac.....		1850	
Nye, Allen G.....	Oct. 22, 1865	Dec. 27, 1948	Gravel Hill Cemetery, Palmyra, Pa.
Otterbein, Philip William.....	June 3, 1726	Nov. 17, 1813	Otterbein Church Yard, Baltimore, Md.
Peiffer, Daniel.....	Oct. 24, 1785	Sept. 20, 1868	Eby's Church Cem., Lancaster Co., Pa.
Peters, Lewis.....	July 12, 1836	Mar. 8, 1893	Steelton, Pa.
Poulton, Campbell T.....	Aug. 17, 1837	April 30, 1873	North Vineland, N. J.
Quigley, John X.....	July 24, 1844	Dec. 25, 1908	Harrisburg, Pa.
Rauch, Samuel A.....	Mar. 22, 1874	Mar. 10, 1944	East Harrisburg Cemetery, Pa.
Raysor, John.....	Jan. 1, 1789	Aug. 31, 1850	Raysor Church Cem., nr. Harrisburg, Pa.
Reesor, D. M.....		1865	Died in Battle, Petersburg, Va.
Renn, U. S. G.....	Mar. 18, 1864	Dec. 24, 1912	Mt. Annville Cemetery, Pa.
Rhoads, Solomon L.....	Nov. 9, 1864	Feb. 16, 1941	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Riegel, Adam.....	Sept. 7, 1754	Aug. 2, 1822	Hummelstown Cemetery, Pa.
Riddle, Jeremiah S.....	Sept. 22, 1847	July 16, 1880	Princeton, Ontario, Canada
Rigor, G. W. Miles.....	Sept. 22, 1831	July 9, 1906	Stoverdale Church Cemetery, Pa.
Romig, Oscar G.....	July 20, 1866	Sept. 23, 1937	Hershey, Pa.
Roop, Jacob.....	Mar. 1, 1782	Dec. 2, 1875	Highspire, Pa.
Rothermal, George W.....	Sept. 4, 1873	May 23, 1942	Friedensburg, Pa.
Ruhl, John.....	Nov. 3, 1820	July 26, 1887	Ruhl's U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Runk, Jacob.....	July 20, 1835	Sept. 9, 1915	Berrysburg, Pa.
Sanders, Monroe P.....	April 7, 1847	May 10, 1892	Malick's Church Cemetery, Pa.
Schaffer, Frederick.....		1814	
Schaffer, John.....	May 19, 1831	Mar. 5, 1881	Baltimore, Md.
Schropp, Henry.....	Mar. 7, 1811	Nov. 17, 1890	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Schwalb, Clarence W.....	Aug. 2, 1884	Nov. 2, 1948	Valley View Cemetery.
Schwope, Benedict.....		1730	Kentucky
Seiders, Samuel.....	Mar. 25, 1796	Mar. 29, 1859	Ranck's Church Cemetery, Pa.
Senseny, John.....		1804	
Senseny, Peter.....		1807	Winchester, Va.
Shaffer, Jacob T.....	Oct. 8, 1843	Aug. 6, 1909	Philadelphia, Pa.
Shannon, A. L.....	April 19, 1864	Dec. 13, 1900	Hopeland Church Cemetery, Pa.
Shelly, William N.....	Oct. 8, 1814	Aug. 4, 1893	Union Cemetery, Allentown, Pa.
Shindler, George.....	June 13, 1837	May 20, 1902	Union Church Cemetery, Powl's Valley, Pa.
Sherrick, Henry G.....	June 8, 1842	April 3, 1886	Florin, Pa.
Shoop, James.....	Oct. 17, 1840	May 25, 1934	Elizabethville, Pa.
Shroyer, Alvin E.....	May 1, 1875	June 7, 1920	Mt. Annville Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Smith, John Christian.....	June 11, 1774	Sept. 8, 1860	Silver Spring Cemetery, Lancaster Co., Pa.
Smith, Jacob Paul.....	Mar. 7, 1849	July 31, 1911	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Smith, John.....	May 25, 1781	Nov. 5, 1843	Hershey Farm Cem., Creswell, Pa.
Smith, John Francis.....	Dec. 17, 1860	Oct. 6, 1914	Philadelphia, Pa.
Smoker, John G.....	May 5, 1840	Dec. 27, 1902	St. John's Church Cemetery, Paradise, Pa.
Snively, Charles A.....	July 31, 1879	July 31, 1944	Fishburn's U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Sneath, E. Oscar, Jr.....	Aug. 18, 1904	Oct. 6, 1933	Stehman's U. B. Ch. Cemetery, Pa.
Snyder, David.....	Sept. 14, 1761	Feb. 12, 1819	Snyder Family Cem., nr. Newville, Pa.
Snyder, John.....		1768	Snyder Church Cemetery, Perry Co., Pa.
Snyder, William H.....	May 6, 1867	Sept. 7, 1943	Wiconisco Cemetery, Wiconisco, Pa.
Spayd, Morris B.....	June 1, 1861	May 13, 1941	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon Co., Pa.
Stehman, Jacob.....	Oct. 19, 1816	Nov. 4, 1892	Intercourse U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Stehman, John B.....	July 15, 1801	June 4, 1887	Stehman's U. B. Cemetery, Pa.
Steigerwalt, Andrew.....	Nov. 28, 1814	Dec. 29, 1872	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Steiner, J. G.....		1926	
Stoll, George.....		1911	Baltimore, Md.
Strickler, Christian.....		1805	
Strickler, David.....	May 11, 1814	Oct. 5, 1888	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Sutton, James.....		1770	
Swartz, Solomon L.....	Sept. 18, 1827	Oct. 6, 1907	Middletown, Pa.
Teeter, James R.....	Nov. 30, 1857	Oct. 17, 1886	Dreysville, Pa.
Uhler, William H.....	June 27, 1837	June 12, 1903	Ebenezer Cemetery, Lebanon County, Pa.
Walters, John M.....	Oct. 14, 1869	Mar. 27, 1945	Laureldale Cemetery, Reading, Pa.
Weidman, Benneville B.....	Oct. 5, 1833	Oct. 31, 1922	Sinking Springs, Pa.
Weidman, Gideon.....	Aug. 21, 1819	April 18, 1876	Hopeland U. B. Church Cemetery, Pa.
Weidner, Henry.....		1811	
Wenger, Abraham.....	July 6, 1789	May 26, 1855	Wenger's Church Cemetery, Jonestown, Pa.
Wenger, John.....		Dec. 22, 1845	
Wengert, Samuel B.....	Jan. 4, 1865	Dec. 7, 1916	Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Lebanon, Pa.
Werle, Henry.....		1823	
Wert, Mark H.....	Mar. 1, 1886	Nov. 19, 1942	Millersburg Cemetery, Pa.
Young, Joseph, Jr.....	Dec. 18, 1821	Nov. 22, 1901	Mt. Annville Cemetery, Annville, Pa.
Zeigler, Philip.....		1828	
Zimmerman, P. L.....		1857	
Zimmerman, Simon.....	May 7, 1820	Aug. 27, 1897	Reinholdsville, Pa.

Chapter XII.

ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

1. Conference Branch of the Women's Missionary Association

The Women's Missionary work is a strong factor in the spirituality and growth of East Pennsylvania Conference.

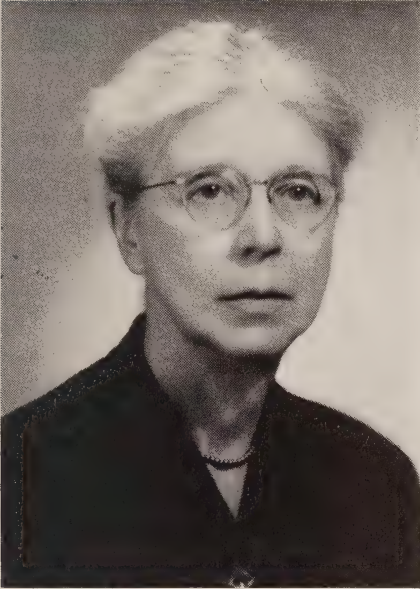
Mrs. A. L. Billheimer was the first woman sent by our church as a missionary to Africa. She and her husband made the trip in a sailboat in 1862. After her return she was elected National Organizer for the Women's Missionary Association, and so it was that she organized East Pennsylvania Branch at Stoverdale Campmeeting August 22, 1877, with the following officers: president, Mrs. D. D. DeLong; first vice-president, Mrs. Isaiah Baltzell; second vice-president, Mrs. J. K. Fisher; third vice-president, Mrs. G. W. M. Rigor; secretary, Mrs. E. B. Bierman; treasurer, Mrs. David S. Herr. However, Mrs. Herr did not serve, and Mrs. S. E. Burn was appointed in her stead.

It was not an easy thing to win the people over to this new and untried venture, but Mrs. Billheimer had the love of God in her heart and was full of rich experiences and had first hand knowledge of the need. She was just the person to start the work. Sixty-five names were enrolled, and so the work began. It was a new thing, the women were timid and had little experience in leading meetings, planning programs, and much less in public speaking, but they did know how to pray, to trust God, and to work together.

The first Branch Meeting was held in Harrisburg First Church April 18, 1878, with afternoon and evening sessions. Mrs. Billheimer spoke at the evening session, and at its close Mr. Rudolph Kelker, a member of the Reformed Church, gave her a ten-dollar gold piece for the work. Four societies were represented—Harrisburg First, Hummelstown, Annville, and Lebanon Trinity, with eighty-five members and total receipts of \$128.50.

Among the societies organized in the next five years were Manheim, Mount Joy, Ranck's, New Holland, and Steelton. Mrs. Billheimer erected her own memorial when in 1915, in her eighty-second year, she organized Philadelphia Second Local. We have record of forty-three different persons who organized societies in the various sections of the Branch, and the recording angel no doubt can double that record, and that is the key to our growth.

The first Young Women's Band was organized in 1887 at Lebanon Valley College by Mrs. D. D. DeLong, whose husband then was president of the College. In 1913 the name was changed to Otterbein Guild, and at the Branch Meeting held at Mount Carmel April 22 to 24, 1913, the first Otterbein Guild Hour was observed. There were fifty-four Otterbein Guild girls in attendance.



Mrs. J. Balmer Showers
National President
Women's Missionary Association



Mrs. S. S. Hough
Honorary President
Women's Missionary Association

Mrs. George W. Hoverter and Mrs. E. B. Bierman were the first delegates elected to Board Meeting which was held at Galion, Ohio, May 1, 1878. The following year Mrs. M. A. McFarlan and Mrs. E. B. Bierman were elected delegates with instructions to "use all honorable means to change the meetings of the Board to quadrennial meetings in order to save expense, time and unnecessary work."

The first W. M. A. Day service at a Campmeeting was held at Stoverdale August 11, 1880. Rev. M. P. Doyle and Rev. C. S. Meily were the speakers. Mrs. S. N. Eby, Mrs. Isaiah Baltzell, Misses Emma Landis and Luella Baltzell were the financial solicitors. The offering of forty dollars was to be used in building a chapel in Africa.

The work was carried on with many hindrances, but it increased in spite of many difficulties. For seventeen years there was no full attendance of Branch Officers at either Branch Meetings or Executive Meetings. Eighteen years after organization there were twenty-two Locals with 508 members, nine Young Women's Bands with 259 members, ten Gleaners' Bands with 490 members. There were 362 Evangel subscriptions at that time. The treasurer reported receipts of \$2,045.81, upon which the chautauqua salute was given and the Doxology was sung three times.

East German Branch was permanently organized August 12, 1881 at Hillsdale Campmeeting by Mrs. L. R. Keister. During the previous

week she spoke at Elizabethville Campmeeting and organized a local. She also spoke at Heilmandale Campmeeting. There a man paid for Life Memberships for his wife and four daughters. He said he would rather do that than eat a turkey.

The following were the first Branch Officers of East German Branch: president, Mrs. M. S. Craumer; first vice-president, Mrs. Fianna Lamey; second vice-president, Mrs. Rebecca Fritz; secretary, Mrs. James Leshner; treasurer, Mrs. I. B. Haak. Ten new Locals were organized in the first year. Among them were Avon, Allentown Zion, Myerstown, Pine Grove, and Reading Zion.

The first Branch Meeting was held in Lebanon Salem Church October 7, 1881. Palmyra First Local was organized in 1892 and just five years later entertained the Branch Meeting. At this meeting was the last public appearance before returning to Africa of Rev. and Mrs. I. N. Cain, Marietta Hatfield, M. D., Mary Archer, M. D., Miss Ella Schenck and Arthur A. Ward, all of whom except the last were victims of the massacre which occurred six months after their arrival on the field.

In 1897 the name was changed to Eastern Branch and in 1902 the Branch was united with East Pennsylvania Branch. The following officers were elected at the Branch Meeting held at Myerstown April 17 to 19, 1902 when the Branches were united: president, Mrs. Joseph H. Kreider; first vice-president, Mrs. M. S. Craumer; second vice-president, Mrs. E. B. Bierman; third vice-president, Mrs. H. S. Gabel; fourth vice-president, Miss Emma L. Landis; corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. A. Keiper; recording secretary, Mrs. DeWitt Fry; treasurer, Mrs. I. B. Haak; organizers, Mrs. Rebecca Fritz and Mrs. Jennie Detweiler.

In the Religious Telescope of September 22, 1877 was printed, "It is said by those who know that our people in the East are not so impulsive but when it comes to a long, strong, hard pull look out for those Pennsylvanians."

Those prophetic words have come true. Much of the success of East Pennsylvania Branch under God can be credited to long and united pulling by both Branch officers and members of Locals and Chapters. There were seven Branch officers of the early days who served for more than ten years in office: Mrs. D. D. DeLong, Mrs. I. B. Haak, Mrs. E. B. Bierman, Mrs. Joseph H. Kreider, Mrs. I. S. Meily, Mrs. M. S. Craumer and Mrs. Rebecca Fritz. Mrs. I. B. Haak served as Branch treasurer for thirty-six years. There are fifteen officers since the early days who have served in office for ten or more years. Mrs. O. M. Fridy served as Branch president for twenty-six years, Mrs. J. A. Keiper served as statistical secretary for twenty-three years. Mrs. J. R. Engle served for twenty-three years as recording secretary and three years as Branch president. Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh served ten years as Secretary of Literature, two years as secretary of Thank Offering, and twenty-three years

as treasurer, a total of thirty-five years as Branch officer. Her reminiscences are recorded in March 1943 issue of the Evangel. Others who have served for ten years or more are Mrs. J. O. Love, Mrs. E. F. Slichter, Mrs. B. F. Daugherty, Mrs. D. L. Fegley, Mrs. Joseph Daugherty, Mrs. DeWitt Fry, Miss Clara Preis, Mrs. O. T. Ehrhart, Mrs. A. C. Spangler, Mrs. J. K. Robinson, and Mrs. E. S. Nissley.

The ministers of the conference have greatly helped in the progress of the work and their presence at institutes and Branch meetings always gives inspiration and encouragement. Dr. S. C. Enck, conference superintendent, presented forty-two ministers to Branch Meeting held at Harrisburg Sixth Street Church May 7 to 9, 1940.

The beginnings were small but the blessing of God was upon the work all through the years, and the 1943 report reveals a total membership of 8797 with 3309 Evangel subscriptions and a total in finances of \$35,917.83. East Pennsylvania and East German Branch have paid over to the treasury of the General Women's Missionary Association, to and including the year 1943, \$899,846.63.

The celebration of Branch Jubilee was an occasion of great activities and great joy. The financial objectives for that year were a Jubilee offering of \$500 and pledges secured for fifty Life Patrons, fifty Life Directors and fifty Life Members. The results were a Jubilee offering of \$993 and pledges received for fifty-one Life Patrons, eighty-four Life Directors and one hundred twenty-three Life Members. To Him be all the glory! The celebration began with a Jubilee service held in Stoverdale Church August 21, 1927 and closed with a Jubilee session at the Branch Meeting held in Harrisburg Derry Street Church May 1 to 3, 1928.

The Missionary Cottage at Mount Gretna was purchased June 30, 1938. The total amount invested in the cottage when ready for occupancy was \$1214.67. This money was gathered by the Branch treasurer, all of which was given specifically for the cottage project. The cottage is supervised by a cottage committee and is constantly occupied throughout the season. The cottage is fully furnished and is indeed a haven of rest to the missionaries who have no financial obligations except their personal living expenses.

The women who started the work in East Pennsylvania Branch had a conscious experience of personal salvation. Their hearts were filled with the love of God. They were aflame with the Holy Spirit. They believed the divine command, "Go ye therefore," and that is why they banded themselves together for the promulgation of the Gospel which is the power of God to everyone that believeth.

This unfinished task of the pioneers is our priceless heritage. We owe it to our Christ, our pious ancestors and our faithful pioneers to be true to the task committed unto us. We dare not remove the landmarks which our pioneers have set. Afresh and anew in the name of the women and girls of East Pennsylvania Branch do we declare that we will carry on until He says "Enough." We will



**Members of the Executive Committee, Year 1935
East Pennsylvania Conference Branch,
Women's Missionary Association**

Standing: Mrs. J. O. Love, Miss Sarah Rettew, Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh,
Mrs. O. T. Ehrhart, Mrs. O. M. Fridy, Mrs. E. S. Nissley

In front: Mrs. D. LeRoy Fegley, Miss Clara Preis, Mrs. J. R. Engle, Mrs.
E. F. Slichter, Mrs. A. C. Spangler

have neither part nor parcel in anything else than spreading the gospel of salvation through faith in the merits of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God.¹

A number of women of this conference have been elected to membership in general missionary organizations. Mrs. Rev. H. B. Spayd of Annville, was trustee and first vice-president of the Women's Missionary Society, and member of the Board of Control of Home Missions, 1909-13. Other trustees of the Women's Missionary Association were: Mrs. Charles M. Coover of Annville, 1913-17; Mrs. Oliver Fridy of Mountville, 1921-25; Mrs. J. R. Engle of Palmyra, 1925-45, and Mrs. Earl R. Miller of Lebanon, 1945-46. Mrs. Coover was member of the Board of Foreign Missions, 1913-17, and Mrs. Engle for the period, 1925-46. Mrs. Alfred K. Mills of Annville was first elected Secretary of Thank Offering in 1933 and was reelected to the same position three succeeding quadrenniums. Mrs. S. S. Hough, a native of Annville, since returning from her work as missionary in West Africa and having residence at Dayton, Ohio, has given loyal service in several responsibilities in general mission work.

2. Christian Education

People of our day may be inclined to think that evangelism for young people within the bounds of our conference is a development



Mt. Gretna Chapel

of recent origin. Such an opinion, however, is far from the facts. The deep concern of our early leaders to win youth for Christ is evident from the effort to provide a Christian literature for children.² The pastor's strategic position, and the importance of youth evangelism is definitely recognized in a report adopted by the 1874 session of East Pennsylvania Conference. It is as follows:

Whereas, it is not only the imperative duty of the Church, but also one of vast and solemn importance to properly care for the young, and whereas the minister of the Gospel holds a position which gives him special influence and superior opportunity with the young people who are the children of Christian parents; therefore

Resolved, That this Conference regard it the duty of preachers in charge of fields of labor within its bounds:

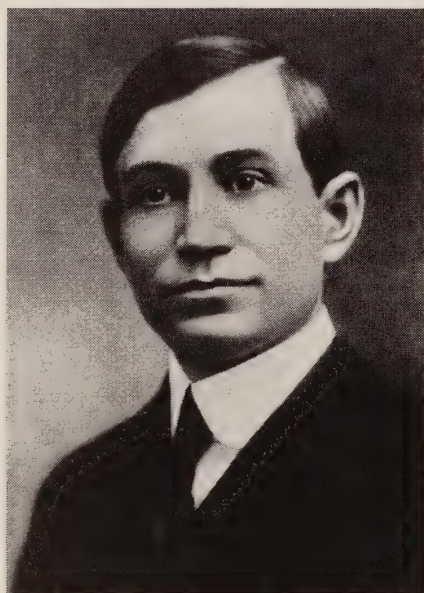
1. To organize classes of young people for instruction in Bible knowledge at stated and regular periods, in addition to the instruction given in the Sabbath-schools.
2. To use all diligence in providing proper, and if possible, systematic instruction in Christian knowledge to young converts.
3. To use all diligence to impart instruction and make saving impressions upon the minds of the children and youth in their pastoral and other visitations.

4. That the presiding elders be required to examine the preachers at the quarterly conferences in regard to the discharge of these duties, and that the presiding elders be examined at the next annual conference in regard to the same.

The churches of the conference fell in line with the general Sunday School and Christian Endeavor movements. In the sketches of local churches the time is stated when these organizations became local activities. For a time, Sunday School promotional meetings were held annually in conference districts. Sunday School secretaries were elected by the conferences whose responsibility it was to arrange for and to conduct such meetings. At another period conference directors of Sunday School Normal work were functioning. Christian Endeavor work was emphasized through biennial, later through annual, conventions. Conference meetings for both these phases of Christian education were in church buildings. As interdenominational meetings on Sunday School work through county and district organizations increased, conference meetings decreased, and finally ceased altogether.

By provision of General Conference of the year 1909, a conference Sabbath school board of five members was elected. The number was later increased to six. Under this board, holding of district institutes was revived. Thus both Sunday School and Christian Endeavor forces acted separately until the year 1929.

Dr. I. N. Seldomridge was president of the Conference Branch of



I. Moyer Hershey



I. N. Seldomridge

Christian Endeavor from 1919 to 1924. At the 1924 meeting, held in Steelton, Dr. I. Moyer Hershey was elected president, and the convention voted to hold its next session on the Mount Gretna Camp-meeting Association grounds. Officers elected in 1925 were: president, I. Moyer Hershey; vice-president, Levi C. Hershey; recording secretary, Miss Anna M. Groff; corresponding secretary, Edward L. Stiles; treasurer, P. B. Gible; Intermediate superintendent, Robert J. Miller; Junior superintendent, Miss Mary McLanachan; Missionary superintendent, Miss Mildred Woodside; Stewardship superintendent, R. S. Heberlig; and chairman of publicity, Oscar G. Romig.

Beginning with 1929 both the name and the character of the summer gathering of Christian education forces were changed. It was now called the "Summer Assembly" and whereas formerly Christian Endeavor activities only were emphasized, Sunday School work now shared in the broader treatment of Christian Education. In the fall of the same year the annual conference elected a Conference Board of Christian Education. Dr. I. Moyer Hershey was elected president of the Board. A committee appointed by him studied the problem of merging this Board with the Sabbath School Board. The committee appointed drew up a constitution which was adopted by the 1930 session of annual conference. Under this constitution without change the Conference Board of Christian Education has been functioning to this date. The Board consists of five ministers and four laymen.

One of the chief activities of this Board is to promote the Summer Assembly. A committee appointed by it builds a program of educational, inspirational and recreational features. The general assembly periods held morning and evening—inspirational and devotional in nature—are addressed by outstanding religious leaders. Among them have been: Prof. William A. Freemantle of Philadelphia; Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York; Drs. J. Gresham Machen, Donald MacKenzie, and E. G. Homrighausen of Princeton Seminary; Drs. L. L. Letgers, J. E. Pace, and F. Grossley Morgan, special Bible Lecturers; Dr. J. E. Hartzler of Hartford Seminary; Dr. R. R. Fritsch of Muhlenberg College; Dr. Clyde A. Lynch, Lebanon Valley College; Dr. J. R. Howe, president, Otterbein College; Dr. Walter N. Roberts, president Bonebrake Theological Seminary; and Dr. George W. Richards of Franklin and Marshall College.

Bishops of the United Brethren Church who have served in the same capacity were: G. D. Batdorf, Ira Warner, and V. O. Weidler. The annual communion Service attended by between 900 and 1000 persons is presided over by Bishop Batdorf, annually.

Departmental work of the church, such as missions, evangelism, Christian Education, has been presented by: Dr. J. Balmer Showers, Mrs. J. Hal Smith, Dr. S. G. Ziegler, Dr. J. Edgar Knipp, Dr. O. O. Arnold; Dr. O. T. Deever, Dr. J. Gordon Howard, and Dr. G. A. Richie.



Summer Assembly Program Committee, Year 1946

Front Row: Rev. G. Edgar Hertzler, Chairman; Rev. D. E. Young, General Director; Rev. P. B. Gible, President Board of Christian Education; Rev. H. K. Geyer, Dean Leadership Training; Back Row: Rev. T. S. May, Associate Director; Rev. S. T. Dundore, Young People's Director; Rev. D. Leroy Fegley, Director Youth Preparatory Courses; Mrs. Wm. Barmont, Children's Director; Rev. Ezra H. Ranck, Registrar; Rev. Warren H. Mentzer, Director Life Work Recruits; Rev. Leroy R. Walters, Publicity Superintendent. Mr. A. C. Spangler, Adult Director (not in picture).

The assembly music has always been of a very high order. Among directors of note were: Mr. I. H. Mack of the Hall-Mack Music Company; Mr. Homer Rodeheaver; Rev. Herbert R. Howells; and Walter D. Eddowes.

Persons who have had a large part in promoting the work of the Assembly and who also are always in attendance at its sessions are: Dr. S. C. Enck, former Conference Superintendent, and, for the past two years, Dr. D. E. Young, his successor. The Rev. I. Moyer Hershey served as president of the Board and director general of the assembly until his death in the year 1931. Dr. J. Owen Jones served following him for a period of three years. Dr. P. B. Gible served in that capacity from 1935 to 1942. Dr. Young is now at the head of the organization.

Definite instruction courses are provided for those making up the Assembly attendance. For the older persons International Leadership Courses are offered, in both the B and A series. Recommended textbooks are used, examinations given and certification cards issued for those who pass required work. Intermediate groups also

ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS



Hall of Christian Education



Otterbein Lodge

receive planned instruction. Juniors are grouped according to age and given appropriate instruction.

These age groups also meet for separate assemblies in which subject matter, methods, and procedures in Christian education are

dealt with. The early morning and late evening periods are devoted to cottage or other group quiet hour devotions. Vesper services have been conducted in the open by Lake Conewago, on the former State Military Camp grounds, or on the hilltop along the road leading southward from the main assembly grounds. A rather novel service, held during two years was a Galilean Service conducted by two persons from a boat at the lake shore, with the audience standing by the shore.

Recreation features consist of supervised games, such as tennis, soft-ball, standard baseball, shuffle board, and miniature golf. Other forms of recreation are swimming, boating, and hiking.

Assembly services in the main are held in a large circular tabernacle. Classes for the older age groups are held in a building known as "The Hall of Christian Education" which has in it ten class rooms. The Board purchased a cottage which has been reconstructed to meet the needs of carrying on the work for the younger children. Quite recently the annual conference has bought a spacious building on the "Gretna Heights" development. This building is now known as "Otterbein Lodge" and has been fitted out to serve as kitchen, dining room and assembly room, and dormitory.

Approximately three hundred persons were present at the first Christian Endeavor Convention held at Mt. Gretna. By 1934, the number of registrations at the Summer Assembly had reached 830. The peak registration was 1404, in the year 1946; the average for a twelve year period was 945.

For the wider work of Christian Education the conference area is divided into ten districts. An appointed president, for each, is charged with the responsibility of carrying out the plans and program of the Conference Board. District rallies or institutes are held annually in the fall of the year, and occasionally in the spring. The conference Board is seeking to carry out the denominational program as outlined by the General Board.

3. Lebanon Valley College

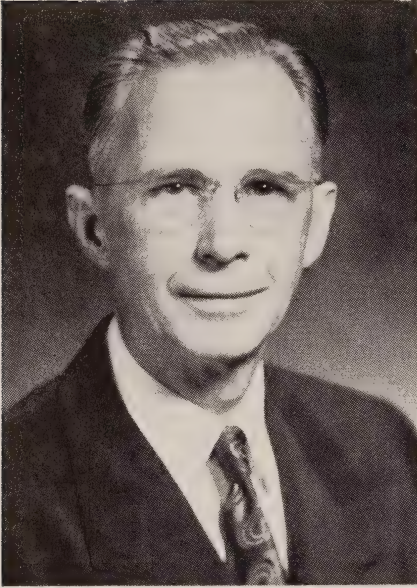
By the middle of the fourth decade of the last century, another phase of Christian Education received attention by some of our conference leaders. There was in the process of developing a sense of need and forward look for a denominational college. The culmination of that outlook was the establishing of Lebanon Valley College at Annville. It is because of the vital relation between conference and college that a brief record of the origin and progress of "Lebanon Valley" is here included.

There was a more or less official connection with two other schools, before steps were taken to locate a school at Annville. Allegheny Conference established a college at Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, in the year 1850. This conference gave limited support to that institution from 1852 to 1858, and once, at



Administration Building, Lebanon Valley College

least, elected five trustees. In 1858 conference voted to cooperate with Otterbein University, located at Westerville, Ohio, and elected three members to its trustee board. Support was to be given upon the condition that, "the agent," who was present at the session, "can assure us that our rule of discipline on dress, slavery, and secret societies is properly respected." In renewing its pledge of support the following year, conference passed the resolution: "That the manual labor connected with the school be respected and supported." It seems that college authorities in those days had some difficulties in



A. H. M. Stonecipher, A.M., Ph.D.
Dean & Prof. of Latin and Greek

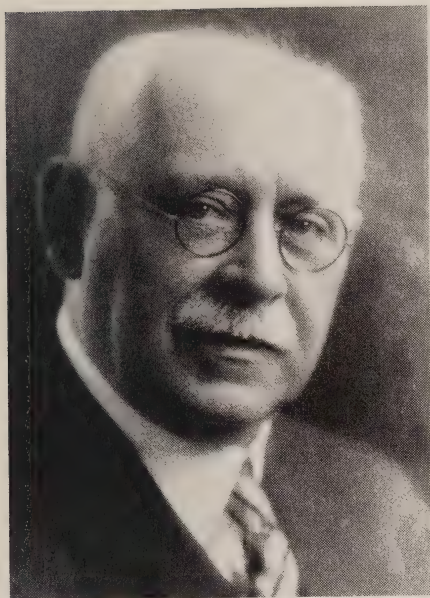


Clyde A. Lynch, D.D., Ph.D., LL.D.
President, 1932-1950

meeting the wishes of their constituencies just as they do in our more modern days. In 1863 there was no longer "actual cooperation," nevertheless, agents for the University continued to solicit cash and loans from our conference fields of labor.

In 1865 conference again pledged influence and support to Otterbein University, but at the same time elected five persons to meet with a like number selected by Pennsylvania Conference to consider the locating of a school somewhere within the bounds of the two conferences. One year later, the committee appointed, recommended in its report: First, the establishing of a school of high grade under the supervision of the church; second, to accept for this purpose the grounds and buildings of what was then known as the Annville Academy, tendered as a gift to the Conference; and, third, to lease the buildings and grounds to a responsible party competent to take charge of the school the coming year.

The charter of incorporation in its final form was granted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and approved April 5, 1867. In it appear the names of twenty-seven persons who constituted the first board of trustees, all of whom were members of East Pennsylvania Conference. There was in it a provision (Sec. 4), as follows: "That the said annual conference may, by resolution, delegate the appointment of any number of said trustees, to any other annual conference of said church, who may cooperate with them." It is by the exercise of that provision that East German Conference, during the entire period of its existence, and Allegheny



Hervin U. Roop, Ph.D., LL.D.
President, 1897-1906



Alvin E. Shroyer, B.S., D.D.
Prof. of Greek and Bible, 1909-1920

Conference, from 1882 to 1891, were cooperating; and Virginia Conference and Pennsylvania Conference, since 1873, have been cooperating conferences.

The By-laws of the charter provide that "Trustees at Large" may be named by the Board of Trustees, and "Alumna Trustees," may be named by the Alumni Association, and these nominations shall be submitted to the next ensuing session of the East Pennsylvania Conference for ratification and election.

The present campus of twelve acres is located in the heart of Annville. Around it are grouped seventeen college buildings, including the Administration Building, the Carnegie Library, the Engle Conservatory of Music, Washington Hall, the Men's Dormitory, and four dormitories for women: North Hall, South Hall, West Hall and Sheridan Hall; and the President's residence. A large Physical Education Building, whose cornerstone was laid in May 1950, is nearing completion. There are two athletic fields: one of five acres, and the other of sixteen acres. The book value of total plant funds assets as of June 30, 1949, was \$1,031,394.41. The total endowment fund assets as of the same date, was \$774,448.38.

Dr. Clyde A. Lynch is the eleventh president of the institution. He began his administration on Thanksgiving Day, 1932. Before coming to Lebanon Valley as its president, he was an itinerant minister of the East Pennsylvania Annual Conference, having served in five pastorates. He was born in Harrisburg, August 24, 1891, a son



Samuel H. Derickson, M.S., Sc.D.
Prof. of Biological Science



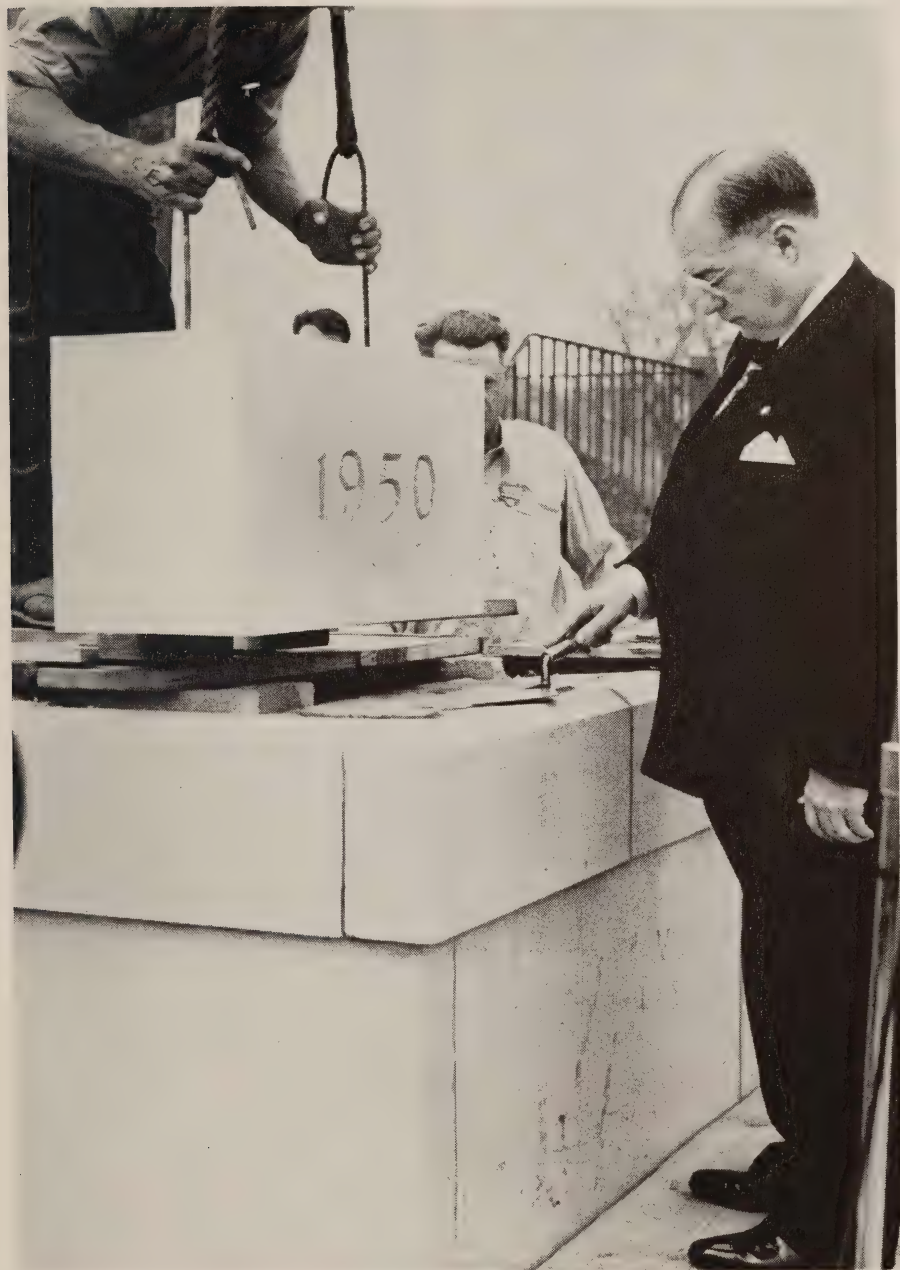
Hiram H. Shenk, A.M., LL.D.
Prof. of History

of John Henry and Carmina Blanche Keys Lynch. He is a graduate of the following institutions of learning, receiving the degrees indicated: Lebanon Valley Academy; Lebanon Valley College, A.B. 1918, and A.M. 1925; Bonebrake Theological Seminary, B.D. 1921; and the University of Pennsylvania, A.M. 1929, and Ph.D. 1931. Lebanon Valley conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1926, and Albright College honored him with the degree of Doctor of Laws in 1937.

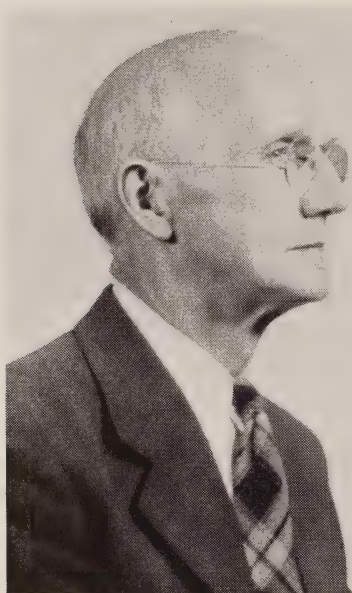
While studying at the University he was also employed there (1928-30) as an assistant in the department of Psychology. Dr. Lynch was professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology in Bonebrake Seminary, 1930-32.

In the annual conference Dr. Lynch was chairman of the Committee on Conference Relations, member of the Council of Administration, and member of the Finance Committee. He was elected by the conference constituency to be a delegate to the General Conferences of the years 1933 to 1945 inclusive, and of the merging session of 1946, at which he was chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy. In the Federal Council of Churches, Dr. Lynch was an alternate member of the Executive Committee. He held membership in Educational, Scientific, Civic, Social, and Fraternal organizations numbering in the aggregate several scores.

President Lynch has not had what might be termed a normal year of college administration; his early years were in the after-



President Lynch, Laying the Cornerstone,
Physical Education Building
May 6, 1950



Andrew Bender, A.M., Ph.D.
Prof. of Chemistry



Samuel O. Grimm, A.M., Sc. D.
Prof. of Physics

math of the depression; then came World War II, which almost decimated the male population of the campus and saw the enrollment drop to 214; the most recent years have seen the campus crowded with students, with the highest enrollment in the history of the College occurring during 1948-49, when there were 828 full-time students registered; and a net total enrollment of 1211.

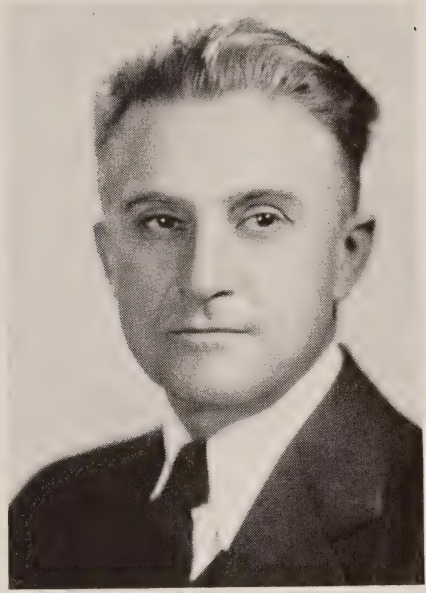
In spite of many emergency measures, numerous constructive advance policies in college management and educational procedure were introduced: the faculty was enlarged to fifty-nine members, a Retirement Plan for faculty members was adopted; a Dean of Instruction, an Assistant to the President, a Director of Admissions and Student Solicitation, a Director of Religious and Social Activities, a Director of Public Relations and Alumni Secretary, a full-time Registrar, and a part-time Alumni Secretary were added to the administrative personnel; a Building and Endowment Campaign having a goal of \$550,000 was successfully conducted; and additional property was secured. These are some of the major achievements during Dr. Lynch's term of office.

No man has been more actively engaged, in not only one, but in all the relationships he has had with a multiplicity of professional and personal services. In the time of his presidency he delivered 1786 sermons and addresses, thus keeping the College before the public and creating an atmosphere of goodwill.

In July 1950, Dr. Lynch wrote the Preface for this volume. When



Robert R. Butterwick, A.M., D.D.
Prof. of Philosophy & Religion,
1921-1942

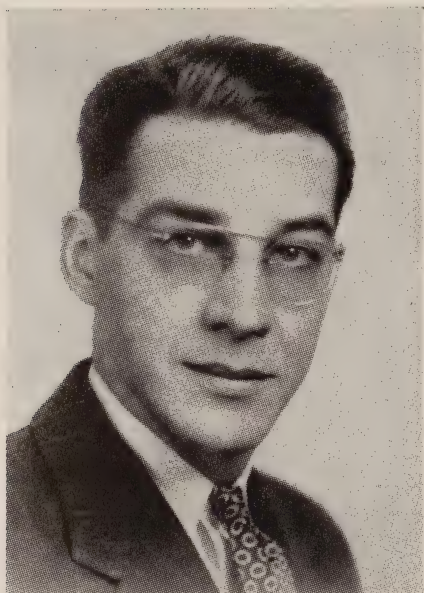


Gustavus A. Richie, A.M., D.D.
Prof. of Religion & N. T. Greek

in his office to receive the Preface from his hands, Dr. Lynch told the author that his doctor had advised him to cancel all engagements made, and to cut to a minimum, for the time being, his college duties. About two weeks later, on Sunday morning, August 6, the noble career of this great Christian statesman came to an end, attributed to coronary thrombosis. It was a severe shock to all who knew him, and all felt they had lost a sincere friend.

Those who served in the presidency prior to Dr. Lynch were: Thomas Rees Vickroy, Ph.D., 1866-71; Lucian H. Hammond, A.M., 1871-76; D. D. DeLong, A.M., 1876-87; E. S. Lorenz, A.M., B.D., 1887-89; Cyrus J. Kephart, A.M., D.D., 1889-90; E. Benjamin Bierman, A.M., Ph.D., 1890-97; Hervin U. Roop, A.M., Ph.D., LL.D., 1897-1906; Abram P. Funkhouser, B.S., D.D., 1906-07; Lawrence Keister, S.T.B., D.D., 1907-12; and George Daniel Gossard, B.D., D.D., LL.D., 1912-32.

Professors who, since the turn of the century, have had ten or more years of service, with years of service, are: L. G. Bailey, 1931-47; Edward M. Balsbaugh, 1938-48; Andrew Bender, 1907-09, 1921—; Robert R. Butterwick, 1921-42; Samuel H. Derickson, 1903—; Christian R. Gingrich, 1917-43; Mary C. Green, 1920—; Samuel O. Grimm, 1914—; John E. Lehman, 1887-1924; Lena Louise Lietzau, 1930—; Frederic K. Miller, 1939—; O. Edgar Reynolds, 1924-40; Gustavus A. Richie, 1925—; Hiram H. Shenk, 1909—; Alvin E. Shroyer, 1909-20; James T. Spangler, 1890-91, 1897-1909, 1921-25; E. H.



Frederic K. Miller, A.M., Ph.D.
Asst. to President & Prof. of History



William A. Wilt, D.D.
College Pastor

Stevenson, 1928-39; Stella Johnson Stevenson, 1928 —; Milton H. Stokes, 1926-46; Alvin H. M. Stonecipher, 1933 —; George G. Struble, 1931 —; Paul S. Wagner, 1919-38; and Paul A. W. Wallace, 1925 —.

Instructors in the Music Department having ten or more years of service are: Ruth Engle Bender, 1919-21, (Director of the Conservatory of Music, 1924-30), 1930 —; R. Porter Campbell, 1921 —; D. Clark Carmean, 1933 —; Alexander Crawford, 1927 —; W. Merle Freeland, 1938 —; Mary E. Gillespie, (Instructor and Director, 1930 —); Harold Marsh, 1924 —; Ella R. Moyer, 1931-43; Edward P. Rutledge, 1931 —; E. Edwin Sheldon, (Instructor and Director, — — 1920); and Ida Manavel Sheldon, — — 1920. Helen Ethel Myers has been College Librarian since 1921.

4. Bonebrake Theological Seminary

When one considers that a total of ninety-five ministers of East Pennsylvania Conference were students in our Theological Seminary at Dayton, Ohio, one can readily see the tremendous contribution that institution has made to our conference. Fifty of this number are at present members of the conference. All but a few of these students, in both categories, took a full course and were graduated. No one can evaluate the advantage this contribution has been to this the strongest conference, numerically and financially, in the denomination. This strength, in turn, has been a great blessing to the Seminary. The conference has given generously to its need for funds to carry on.

It was at the General Conference held in Salem Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, 1869, that the first steps were taken to found a denominational theological school. Subsequently, on July 27, 1870, the Board of Education met in Dayton and laid plans to establish a seminary. "Union Biblical Seminary" was the name adopted. On October 11, 1871, the first session of the school was held in the Summit Street Church in Dayton. The first graduation exercises were held in May 1874, with seven students graduating.

A brick building was erected at a cost of ten thousand dollars on ground donated by the Rev. John Kemp, located on the corner of West First Street and Euclid Avenue. "In 1909 John M. Bonebrake and wife of Veedersburg, Indiana, made a valuable gift, and the name of the institution was changed to the Bonebrake Theological Seminary in honor of six uncles of Mr. Bonebrake's father who were ministers of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ." On April 1, 1910 a new site was purchased in the beautiful "Dayton View" section of the City. A parcel of thirty-five acres of ground bought was retained, and the new buildings erected thereon were occupied in 1923.

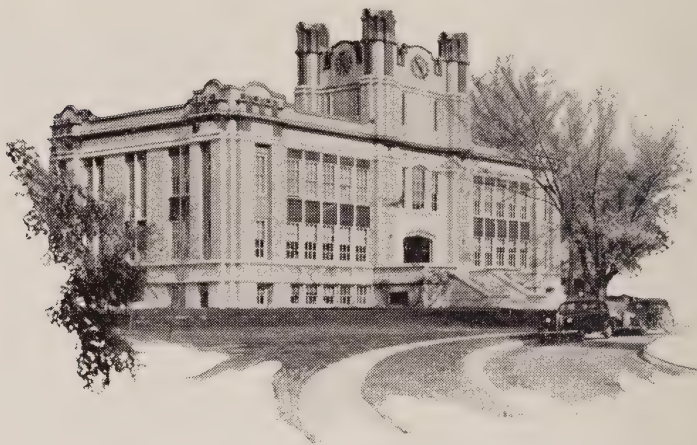
The exceptionally high qualities of scholarship and Christian example which has characterized the faculty through the years has been a great inspiration to the ministerial students and their wives. The consecrated and trained men who now occupy the several chairs are worthy successors of the great souls which have gone to the glory land. Dr. Walter N. Roberts, president since 1938, is directing the work of the institution in an admirable manner. We record here our gratitude to Dr. Roberts, and to Dr. Walter E. Roush, Professor of Old Testament Interpretation, for their courtesies in permission to have free access to the archives at the Seminary.

Our conference has made contributions also to the teaching staff of the Seminary. Dr. Landis, though not a member of this conference, was born within its area. We feel that he belongs to the entire church, and that he is highly deserving of mention in this connection. A brief description of his work and that of the faculty who were members of this conference, follows.

Josiah P. Landis, D.D., Ph.D.

Joseph Landis³ and wife Caroline Weiler, parents of Josiah Pannabecker Landis were charter members of the Hopeland Church, Clay Township, Lancaster County, Pa. They resided at Brickerville at the time son Josiah was born, October 27, 1843. Later the family moved to Campbelltown, Lebanon County. Following a brief residence at the latter place, the family moved to a farm near Joliet, Illinois. The father died when Josiah was eleven years of age.

The subject of this sketch enrolled in Otterbein University at the age of eighteen. His college career was interrupted by three years of military service, 1862-65, in the Union Army, delaying his graduation until the year 1869. He attended Western Theological Semi-



Administration Building, Bonebrake Theological Seminary

nary, and Lane Theological Seminary, graduating from Lane in 1872. He studied at Wooster University where he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1889. Special studies were pursued at the University of Berlin in 1886.

The Reverend Landis was ordained at the 1871 session of Miami Conference, at which session he was assigned to serve Summit Street (now Euclid Avenue Church), in Dayton. Then followed two three-year pastorates at Miltonville and Germantown, Ohio, respectively. For a period of forty-six years, Dr. Landis was connected with the work in the Seminary at Dayton, in the following capacities: as part-time professor, Hebrew Exegesis, 1871-74; Hebrew Exegesis, 1880-86; Systematic Theology, 1886-91; Hebrew Exegesis and Old Testament Theology, 1891-1932; Dean, 1907-10; President, 1910-21; and Professor Emeritus, from 1932 to the time of his death, October 17, 1937.

Dr. Landis was elected president of the Y. P. C. U. at the first denominational convention, 1890, and served in that capacity until 1902. He was for a time president of the Ohio Sunday School Union, served for many years on the Dayton Library Board, being its president for fifteen years. He participated in the Parliament of Religions in Chicago, 1893; the Methodist Ecumenical Conference, Washington, D. C.; was secretary of the Tri-Church Council, 1907, in Chicago; and was for a number of years secretary of the General Board of Education.

This eminent theologian and teacher was the author of formulas and rituals prepared for the Church Discipline; was literary editor of The Otterbein Hymnal, and editor-in-chief of the Sanctuary Hymnal. He was one of the most widely-known and best-loved men of the Church. Fluency of language and clarity of thought captivated his many and diverse audiences. He was a delightful conversationalist, a passionate evangelist.

Samuel D. Faust, D.D., Ph.D.

Samuel D. Faust was born near Roxbury, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1853. He united with the Otterbein United Brethren Church, near Mowersville, Pennsylvania. For eight years, Mr. Faust taught in the public schools of his home community and farmed at the same time. In the spring of 1881 he sold his possessions and entered normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, and in the fall of the same year he entered Union Biblical Seminary, graduating with the class of 1884, in the regular course. Upon graduation, he was appointed to Intercourse Charge, Lancaster County, Pa., and served out the conference year. He was pastor of Harrisburg First Church, February 1889 to February 1892. The Rev. Faust then went to Colorado for health's sake and served a charge there until 1893, when he was called to the professorship of Church History in Union Biblical Seminary.

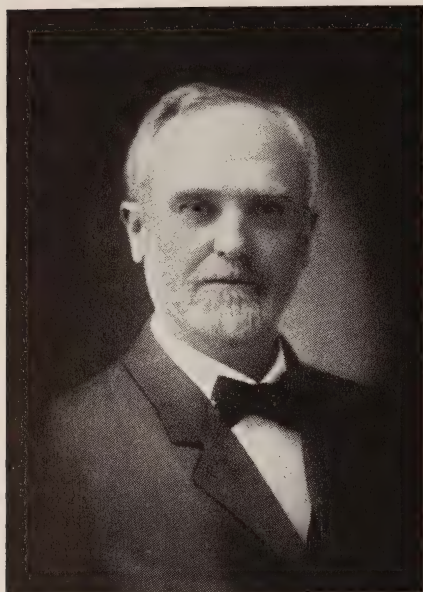
The Rev. Faust received quarterly conference license in 1882, and joined annual conference at a joint session of the two conferences, in the year 1885. He was ordained in 1888. After the conferences met separately, he retained membership in Pennsylvania Conference until 1889 when he transferred to East Pennsylvania. He was a member of this conference to the time of his death, July 12, 1929. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley College, receiving the A.B. degree in 1889 and the A.M. degree in 1892. The College honored him twice—with the degree of Doctor of Divinity, 1894, and the degree of Doctor of Laws, 1916.

As Professor in Bonebrake Seminary, he served most successfully in an active capacity until 1926, when upon his request on account of illness, he was relieved from teaching, the Seminary Board graciously voting him an emeritus relation. He was a long-time member of the General Board of Education, serving as its secretary fifteen years. He was also a valued member of the Publishing House Board for eleven years. He had a fine presence, was tall and stately in appearance, keen and alert in mind, and of an amiable disposition.

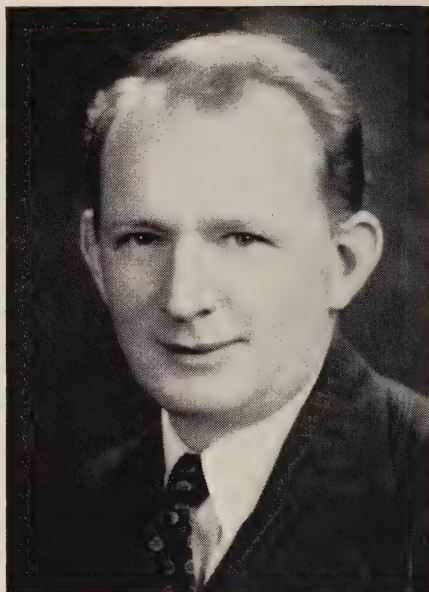
J. Wesley Etter, B.D., D.D.

The Rev. J. Wesley Etter, preacher, teacher, author, and editor, was born near Halifax, Dauphin County, March 13, 1846. In his seventeenth year he was converted and united with the church. He was graduated from Bryant Commercial College in 1866 and from Lebanon Valley College in 1872. The following year he served the college as teacher of Rhetoric, and English Literature. In 1875 he completed the course in Drew Seminary. His quarterly conference license was granted in 1871, his annual license in 1873, and he was ordained in 1876. His pastorates were: Mt. Joy, 1875-77; 1883-85; Philadelphia Mt. Airy, 1877-79; Baltimore Salem, 1879-81; and Lebanon Trinity, 1885-89. Lebanon Valley College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1884.

After 1880 the Rev. Etter labored under physical difficulties with a



Samuel D. Faust



J. Bruce Behney

persistence rarely equalled. Over the conference years 1881-83 he lived at Halifax and gave what strength he had to writing. During the first year of his second pastorate at Mt. Joy, his book of 581 pages, *The Preacher and His Sermon*, came off the press. It is the most extensive volume on any subject by a member of this conference. He also is the author of a book entitled, *Christian Baptism*, and another, *The Thorn in the Flesh*; and at the time of his death he had in preparation material for a small volume, on *Christ and Theology*, and for one on *The Lord's Prayer*.

The General Conference of 1889 elected him editor of the *Quarterly Review*. In 1891 he was elected to the chair of Systematic Theology in Union Biblical Seminary. His voice failing him, he resigned at the close of the first year and resumed work on the *Quarterly Review*. At the next General Conference he was elected chief editor of our Sunday-School literature. This place he held until his death, March 28, 1895.

Clyde A. Lynch, A.M., D.D., Ph.D., LL.D.

Attention to the life work of Dr. Clyde A. Lynch, Professor of Homiletics in Bonebrake Seminary, 1930-32, has been given under the sketch of Lebanon Valley College.

J. Bruce Behney, D.D., Ph.D.

Dr. J. Bruce Behney is the most recent addition from this conference to the faculty of Bonebrake Seminary. His father, J. J. Behney,

was a teacher and a principal of public schools in several communities. Thus it happened that son, J. Bruce, was born in Ralston, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania; and joined the Methodist Church of Freeland, Pennsylvania, upon profession of faith in 1921. He was graduated from Freeland High School in 1923. He entered Lebanon Valley College in the fall of 1924 and united with the College Church. The next year he was granted quarterly conference license. The Rev. Behney received annual license in 1928 and was ordained in 1933. He was graduated from Lebanon Valley in 1928, from Bonebrake Seminary in 1932. He took post graduate work in Yale University, graduating in 1941 with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in the same year.

The Rev. Mr. Behney was ad interim Professor of Greek and Bible at Lebanon Valley, 1930-31. Since coming to Bonebrake as Professor, he has taught Church History, 1935-39, and Systematic Theology and Church History 1939-50. He is a thorough and conscientious student and a successful instructor. He shows promise of rounding out a teaching career which will be equal to the high quality of service of his renowned predecessors.

5. Quincy Orphanage and Home

The Quincy Orphanage and Home of the United Brethren Church, located in Quincy, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, had its origin in the minds and hearts of Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Kitzmiller, who saw the need of such a home in the eastern area of the church of the United Brethren in Christ. They were moved by the Lord to tender their valuable farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres to the Church for an Orphanage and Home.

The Orphanage and Home was opened early in April 1903 at which time a family of ten children was admitted. The Home was dedicated on October 17, 1903. The main speakers for the occasion were Gov. Samuel W. Pennypacker and Judge John Stewart. Rev. H. J. Kitzmiller was chosen as superintendent and Mrs. Kitzmiller as matron of the Orphanage and Home. Rev. Kitzmiller rendered invaluable, consecrated, Christlike service in supervising, planning and rendering hard labor during a period of thirty-three years. He was called to his final reward on January 25, 1936. Upon his passing, Mr. A. C. Wertsch, who served faithfully as Rev. Kitzmiller's assistant since July 1, 1924, was elected to the superintendency and has served in that capacity up to the present time.

Mrs. Kitzmiller continued to serve as matron until she was granted retired relationship August 4, 1943. She was granted full pay and home for the rest of her life. This fine faithful servant of the Lord, who gave forty years of her life in consecrated services to the children and aged guests, well deserved this reward. She was called to her final rest November 17, 1944. Mrs. Grace Wentz was chosen to serve as matron of the Old People's Home upon the retirement of Mrs. Kitzmiller; and Mrs. A. C. Wertsch serves as matron of the



Quincy Orphanage and Old Peoples' Home

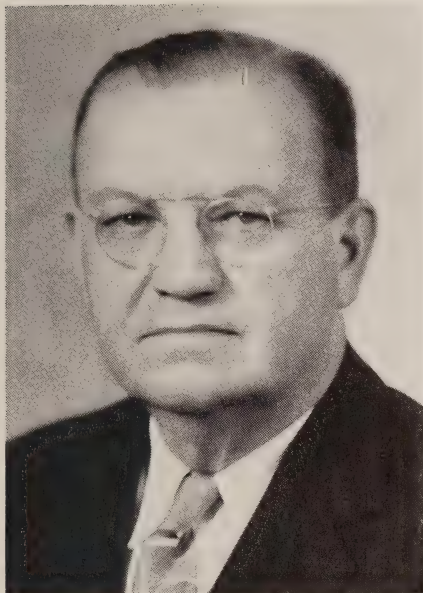
Orphanage Department, which position she has held since July 1, 1924.

The Quincy Orphanage and Home, under God's bountiful blessing, and the churches' and consecrated workers' loyal, prayerful support, has had a remarkable growth. From a meager beginning of total receipts in the first year, 1903, of \$5,638.10 and expenditures of \$5,445.67 with assets and resources of \$23,994.73, its growth is shown by the 1950 Annual Report. This report shows total receipts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1950 of \$377,186.78 and total expenditures of \$307,598.35, with assets and resources of \$1,113,482.63.

The acreage of the Home has increased from the original one hundred and sixty-three acres to three hundred and fifty acres. This was made possible by adding two farms, adjoining the original Kitzmiller farm, containing one hundred fifty acres which were donated to the Home by our great friend and benefactor, Mr. Peter Newcomer; the purchase of the small Stull farm on the North and the Baer farm on the east; and several large meadows on the south, from Mr. Singer.

The number of buildings, housing our family of children and aged guests and our employees, has grown from the original two buildings until, today, we have twenty-two buildings in our Orphanage and Home plant.

Since the Orphanage and Home opened its doors and admitted the first children three hundred and eighty-three have been honorably dismissed, having reached their eighteenth birthday. In addition,



Alvin C. Wertsch



Melvin G. Sponsler

almost the same number left before their eighteenth birthday, having been released to their living relative or having left on their own responsibility. At the present we have one hundred thirty-two children in the Orphanage Department.

The Aged Guests' Department was added to our Orphanage and Home in 1915, when the Colestock Old People's Home family was moved from Mechanicsburg, Pa. to Quincy, Pa. During the thirty-five years that the Home has sheltered aged members of our denomination, the Home has laid to rest one hundred and eighty-four members of this family. At present we have sixty aged guests in this Home. After the completion of the new forty-room annex being built to Old Folk's Cottage no. 1, we will be able to care for nearly one hundred aged folk.

The membership of the churches in the seven conferences of the Eastern area, to which the East Pennsylvania Conference belongs, can feel justly proud of this fine benevolent Home.

Contributions in cash from East Pennsylvania Conference for a ten-year period ending with September 1949 amounted to \$187,291.-25.⁴

Mr. Alvin C. Wertsch, who since 1924 has been associated with the work of Quincy Orphanage and Home, was born in Hopeland, Lancaster County. He was converted in the Hopeland Church in 1894 at the age of nine, and united with said church. His work took him to different communities. Consequently he later held membership in Covenant Church, Lancaster, and Second Church, Philadel-

phia. His combined service in these three churches was that of teacher of boys' and young men's classes of the Sunday School, superintendent of an Intermediate Department, president of Christian Endeavor, and financial secretary.

The teaching profession engaged most of Mr. Wertsch's earlier life, in the following positions: teacher of the Mt. Airy School in his home township, principal of the Quarryville High School, head of the academic department of Thaddeus Stevens Industrial School, Lancaster, Pa., principal of the Strasburg High School, and Physical Director and Athletic Coach of the Landsdowne High School. From 1918 to 1920, he was engaged in recreational and secretarial work in connection with the military effort; and in Y. M. C. A. work. His educational preparation was in the public school, and in Millersville State Normal School. He was graduated from Millersville in the year 1909.

Thus, in training and experience, Mr. Wertsch was fully qualified to take up the various responsibilities of the position to which he was called at Quincy. He works hard, is a good disciplinarian, and an excellent manager. He is extremely tactful in working both with young and old; and in securing the cooperation of the employees of the institution and of the constituencies of the conferences of the Eastern Area of the Church. He sees to it that the children and young people receive proper Christian training and that old people receive spiritual comfort through a varied schedule of public services and private ministrations. No man's job calls for more versatile talents than those which are demanded of this remarkable man, and no man is more successful than he in meeting those demands.

The Rev. Melvin G. Sponsler has been Mr. Wertsch's assistant since October 1949. The Reverend's previous work was in pastorates on the Enders' and Powell's Valley Circuits, Shamokin Circuit, and Lebanon Trinity Church. His adaptability to such duties as this position calls for led the governing board of the institution to select him for the work.

6. Campmeetings

An account of the earlier campmeetings held in various parts of the conference is recorded in Chapter IV. We continue now with the thread of that story. While no exhaustive study of this subject has been made, there are indications that there never was a year since 1825 in which no campmeeting was held. Mention was made of the schedule for the year 1845. In going through the files of the *Religious Telescope*, we noticed an announcement for the year 1849. It is as follows:

Dauphin Circuit, near Mechanicsville, on the road leading from Harrisburg to Jonestown, Monday, August the 6th;
Lykens Valley and Northumberland Mission, on the land of Bro. Lenker, where it was last year, to commence Friday August 17th.

Millheim Circuit, in Sugar Valley, near Logansville, to commence, Friday August 24th.

Halifax Circuit, near Halifax, on the old ground, to commence Friday August 31st.

Lancaster Circuit, near Mt. Joy on the land of Bro. Geyer, to commence on Monday September 10th.

Bishop Erb is invited to attend the above meetings.

This announcement was made by the presiding elder. These were definitely circuit campmeetings. The schedule was so arranged that the presiding elder of the district could attend each meeting, and as we have noticed in several instances, the quarterly conference for the circuit was held on one of those days.

The campmeeting continued to be an instrument for evangelism. In 1880 the presiding elder of the Harrisburg district of the East German Conference wrote: "Five camp-meetings, besides the Union Camp-meeting of Heilmandale, were held on the district during the last summer, all of which resulted in much good. The Church was greatly revived and strengthened spiritually, and about seventy souls were led to the Savior and experienced pardon for their sins." But as time went on and the major evangelistic efforts were within the local Church organization, this feature of the camp greatly diminished.

More and more, the holding of circuit campmeetings became the responsibility of the preacher on the circuit. When the number of presiding elders was finally reduced to one, the number of campmeetings were much too numerous for the elder to be present at each. As late as 1907, six campmeetings were held in a single season. The elder, beginning with 1906, and for some years following, annually gave it as his opinion that the number should be reduced. A more intensive local church program, the close proximity of several camps, irregularities in proper Sabbath observance, and lack of adapting program to needs of the time, called for a decrease in number. So, in time, the strictly circuit campmeeting passed out of existence. Those which continued were Conference campmeetings and district campmeetings. Following is a resume of those of major importance.

Stoverdale

The origin and continuance of this campmeeting was largely under the Stover name. Edward Stover Sr. set aside a tract of land bordering on Swatara Creek about one and one-half miles below Hummelstown. The first meeting was held in the year 1866. An announcement of the sixteenth annual session is printed in the conference proceedings of February 22 to February 28, 1882. It is as follows:

Over sixty splendid cottages are already built, and this number is yearly increased. The sixteenth annual meeting will convene on the 14th day of August and continue nine days.

Excellent boarding, four dollars for the term. Cottages rent for ten dollars, or six dollars for the lower floor, or five dollars for the upper floor. Tents for two and three dollars.

One of the conference ministers who was greatly interested in its promotion, and who served as its secretary for a time was the Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor. In 1888, it was reported that both east and west districts of East Pennsylvania Conference supported the Camp and it was recognized by our leaders, if not by conference action, to be a conference campmeeting. It was a very popular meeting at the peak of its development and great crowds of people, some coming many miles, attended its services.

Some time after the death of the elder Stover in 1903, Edward Jr. became manager. The ministers of the charge of which Stoverdale Church is an appointment have had responsibilities in securing speakers and carrying out the schedule of services. In these later years its services are of a more or less inter-denominational nature.

Heilmandale

When the presiding elder used the word, "Union," to describe the Heilmandale Campmeeting, he meant that it was supported by both the east and west districts of the German conference, therefore, in that sense it was a conference campmeeting. The date of its origin is not on record. Forty years ago, the people about Lebanon spoke enthusiastically of the revival phase of the meeting and of the large number of people who used to assemble there. It was held in a grove in the community whose name it bears, which is located about three miles northwest of the heart of Lebanon City.

Sea Grove

A serious attempt was made to establish a sea-side camp of large proportions at Cape May Point, the most southern tip of New Jersey. It was called Sea Grove Camp. The first meeting was held in the year 1885. At its beginning, the nature of its organization is not defined, but its officers were: Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, president; Rev. Lewis Peters, vice president; and Dr. E. W. Kirby, secretary-treasurer. At "a very spirited meeting" held in the conference room in connection with the conference session of 1887, "A goodly number were present and the company was reorganized on the joint stock plan, with a capital stock of eight thousand dollars."

In February 1888 it was announced that, "These grounds are held in fee simple by an incorporated company of United Brethren, who mean to make it a sea-side resort worthy the visitation of all our people who visit the seashore." The Board of Directors, as reported in 1889, were: Prof. E. B. Bierman of Philadelphia, president; Rev. I. M. Groff of New Holland, vice president; Rev. H. C. Phillips of Lancaster, secretary; Rev. Lewis Peters of Steelton, treasurer; Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor of North Vineland, N. J., general manager; B. H. Engle of East Harrisburg, Rev. H. D. Lehman of Middletown, Amos Hershey of Gordonville, and Rev. H. B. Dohner of Lancaster. The

presiding elders, from year to year, spoke of it as a successful camp, but also stating at times, that it should receive better support. The last year it received specific mention was 1905.

Hillsdale

A report of a campmeeting held at Hillsdale on the Fishburn Circuit got into the conference record of the year 1890. From another source we learn it was in existence as early as 1881. The grove in which it was held is a short distance westerly of the Hillsdale or Geyer's Church. It was a circuit campmeeting, although the presiding elder presided at times, and at other times designated the person who should preside. A majority of the persons who stayed on the grounds for the season lodged in tents. In 1897, it was reported that a few cottages had been built. It had only a fair measure of patronage as compared to other camps. The last mention of it was in 1917, when it was stated that "due to the busy season and high cost of living," but two days' services were held—Saturday and Sunday, August 25th and 26th.

Lykens Valley

As before recited, there was a campmeeting in the Lykens Valley in 1849. At a later date, in 1879, one was in progress near Elizabethville. Furthermore, it is known that for some years prior to the organizing of the present camp, camp services were held in Bickel's Grove, about one and one-half miles westward. The first board of directors meeting for a new campmeeting organization was held in the Elizabethville Church, August 30, 1893. It consisted of the following persons: Michael R. Keiper, Ed. Spangler, The Revs. C. A. Mutch, W. H. Uhler; and James P. Moyer, W. H. Forney, A. D. Zimmerman, S. E. Gilbert, B. S. Reinhart, and A. M. Romberger.

A committee submitted a draft of a Constitution and By-Laws to the Board of Directors September 8, 1893, which was unanimously adopted. It provided for the forming of a stock company to be controlled by a Board of Stockholders who in turn annually elect a Board of Managers. A State Charter of Incorporation was secured April 10, 1894. The grounds, located on a well-drained and wooded slope, about a mile southwest of Elizabethville, were purchased October 4, 1893. The first meeting of the camp opened August 15, 1894, the Rev. H. S. Gabel, presiding elder, had charge of the service and conducted a dedication ceremony.

For several years services were directed from a platform covered with canvas, called the "preachers' stand." In 1914 an auditorium, twenty by thirty-two feet in size, was erected in front of the platform. The auditorium was much enlarged in 1926. The benches without backs were replaced by comfortable pews in 1932. The small boarding house erected in 1897 was replaced by a much larger building in 1933, having a kitchen and dining room on the first floor and a dormitory for guests on the second floor. Until the year 1896, most of the residents of the camps lodged in tents. Nine additional

cottages were erected in that year. This number has increased to fifty-six. They are all in an excellent state of repair and fitted out for cozy living.

In 1931, this camp was recognized as a conference camp. The conference superintendent is in charge of the program of exercises unless hindered by other duties. Its program, never more profitable than now, is of a varied nature, featuring Missions, Christian Education, Evangelism, and Bible Study.

Ministerial brethren, active in the earlier development of the camp, were: H. B. Dohner, H. S. Gabel, James Shoop, D. D. Lowery, C. A. Mutch, A. G. Nye, and J. M. Walters. Those who, more recently, perform important services are: S. C. Enck, A. K. Wier, D. E. Young, H. F. Rhoad, H. S. Kiefer, S. T. Dundore, and D. LeRoy Fegley. Among the laity who have looked after the business affairs of the corporation are: M. R. Keiper, Isaiah Buffington, Aaron Shoop, E. E. Rettinger, Isaiah S. Daniel, H. H. Snyder, George Etzweiler, A. M. Romberger, G. F. Buffington, D. F. Smeltzer, S. H. Shadle, and James Hoffner.

The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1944 with an appropriate program and the printing and distributing of an historical sketch of the camp prepared by Dr. A. K. Wier.

Mt. Lebanon

Mt. Lebanon held its first meeting in the year 1898, as the successor to the Heilmandale meeting. It began as a district campmeeting for the Lebanon presiding elder's district of the East German Conference. It finds its setting in a beautiful grove of trees about two miles north of Lebanon City, along the Fredericksburg road.

The first meeting of the incorporators and subscribers to the capital stock of the Mount Lebanon Campmeeting Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ was held in the office of S. P. Light, Esq., of Lebanon, December 1, 1903. The following were elected a Board of Directors: the Revs. R. R. Butterwick, H. S. Gabel, and H. E. Miller; and I. B. Haak, W. H. Kreider, H. H. Kreider, Cyrus Yingst, E. P. Strickler, Abraham Herr, J. J. Bennetch, and J. R. Snyder. A tract of eighteen acres and 124 perches of land was transferred from the Mt. Lebanon Memorial Association to the new corporation. On April 7, 1912, two acres and 134 perches were added by purchase.

All services are conducted in a large circular tabernacle which was erected in 1904, having a seating capacity of approximately one thousand. At a special Sunday School Day held in that year a great host of children attended, together with some adults. It was reported to have been the largest Sunday School gathering ever assembled in Lebanon County. There are about fifty cottages on the ground. The Association owns and controls the operation of a camp store and refreshment stand, a kitchen, and a large dining room, all being under one roof.

Its services open on a Tuesday evening of the latter part of the month of July, and close on Wednesday evening of the following week. It continues to operate as a district camp. Ministers of annual conference and guest speakers from other sections of the Church bring the pulpit messages. Dr. S. C. Enck has been camp director since 1917. This camp continues most of the traditional features of the earlier camps, such as: services of prayer and praise, use of German hymns, observance of the practice of feet washing for those who desire to participate, observance of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and, until very recent years, had scheduled one or more German sermons. A Children's Hour is held daily, being in charge of Mr. John Adams, for many years superintendent of Juniors in Lebanon Salem Church. Old People's Day is observed on Thursday; and Missionary Day on Tuesday of the second week of services. The women of the Missionary Association are in charge of the morning prayer and praise service on that day and provide the program for the afternoon service. The evening meetings of each day are of an evangelistic nature. Through the years the social and spiritual benefits have enriched the lives of multitudes of men, women, and children.

Mt. Gretna

Dissatisfied with conditions at one of the conference camps, annual conference authorities, together with certain campers and cottage owners, decided to locate elsewhere. The conditions to which objection were made, were:

Nefarious trafficking which is a defiant violation of law, an open desecration of the holy Sabbath, arousing the suspicion that the evil tendencies thus produced predominate and therefore neutralize and frustrate the good accomplished.

The place to which they looked for a new site was in the vicinity of Mt. Gretna, a station on the newly constructed Cornwall and Lebanon Railroad. The region, years afterward, was described in a letter by Mr. Hugh M. Maxwell, a member of the Board of Directors of the Railroad, who suggested "Mt. Gretna" as a fitting name for the station. He wrote:

... we came to a thickly wooded and more thickly overgrown area of brush, where a single track wagon-road wound down the big hill on the southside, crossed the railroad, and led on down to a distant brook, through tall, overhanging green briars—a wild garden of a forest, seemingly to a mountain solitude.

Mr. Maxwell might have added that there were also giant pines, stately oaks, and magnificent chestnut trees in the forest.

In order to develop the area, the railroad officials made a tempting offer to the United Brethren to establish a permanent settlement. Chief of the directors of the railroad was Mr. Robert H. Coleman, one of a family which owned thousands of acres of timberland. On

February 29, 1892, a lease was signed by Mr. Coleman for himself and also as trustee of the estate of Anne C. Rogers, in behalf of the Coleman interests; and by H. B. Dohner and D. D. Lowery for the United Brethren.

On March 17, 1892 a petition for incorporation of the United Brethren Campmeeting Association was granted by John B. McPherson, Law Judge. The directors then selected were: H. B. Dohner, C. J. Kephart, D. D. Lowery, S. N. Eby, W. H. Ulrich, E. W. S. Parthemore, A. R. Myers, Isaiah Baltzell, and J. R. Meredith. A second lease was arranged in 1896. This granted tenancy for twenty years. The next year the United Brethren bought thirty acres and forty perches, including the leased tract of twenty acres, and at a later date secured an additional two acres and one-hundred perches.

The first season of camp was held during August 1892. The grounds were dedicated to the worship of Almighty God on August 7 by Bishop Nicholas Castle. Purchase of the grounds stimulated the erection of cottages. The large circular tabernacle was dedicated on the Sunday of Camp services in August of the year 1899. It is of unique construction—a delightful place in which to worship. The streets running north and south are numbered, First to Eighth; those running east and west, designated avenues, are named after Bishops of the Church. Approximately five-seventh of available area is occupied by cottages. Of other buildings on the camp grounds are the Hall of Christian Education, Ministers' Dormitory, Store and Dining Room, Children's Cottage, and Fire Engine House. The Hall of Christian Education, so called because it was used for the purpose of housing Leadership Training Classes, has been partially reconstructed to meet the worship and social needs of the local church organization.

When the camp opened, and for some years thereafter, the nature of the services followed the general pattern of contemporary campmeetings. But before a full decade became history it took on more of the nature of a Bible Conference. In time, the annual announcement carried the caption, "Campmeeting and Bible Conference." The Conference meets annually on Tuesday following the first Monday of the month of August, and continues ten days. The conference superintendent presides at the services. The Program Committee, under appointment by the Board of Directors of the Association, prepares the schedule of services and engages the speakers. Conferences for ministers are conducted. There is a Children's Hour daily. Church choirs and other music organizations take part in evening and Sabbath services. The roster of speakers includes ministers of this and other conferences of the Church, our own Bishops; and bishops, preachers, and Bible teachers of national and international prominence.

The presidents of the Association have been: Bishop J. S. Mills, the Hon. W. H. Ulrich, Major H. P. Moyer, the Hon. A. S. Kreider and Dr. S. C. Enck. Dr. D. E. Young, conference superintendent, is

now its president. The list of secretaries of the Association is as follows: the Rev. J. R. Meredith, I. T. Enders, the Hon. A. S. Kreider, Dr. R. R. Butterwick, Dr. G. A. Richie, and Dr. Cawley H. Stine.

One of the very special events common to all campmeetings is the presence and message of the Bishop. All who attended campmeetings anxiously anticipated the Sabbath Services and the Bishop's sermon or sermons. Every available seat within the tabernacle of the several camps would be occupied and several hundreds more would stand by on the outside. The crowds, the camp singing, and the inspiring messages of the day, made the Sabbath services a memorable occasion. This, together with other features and functions which we have pointed out, have made the campmeeting a great institution of spiritual power and influence in the life of East Pennsylvania Annual Conference.⁵

Notes on Chapter X

1. The developing status of the presiding eldership is amplified on pages 88-89.
2. A complete list of presiding elders and conference superintendents appears in Chapter XIII.
3. From his Memoir, written by Dr. Enck, Conference Proceedings, 1917, p. 40.
4. The proceedings, 1941, pp. 19-20, 1944, p. 49, cite all details pertaining to the materials he donated, and shows the response by annual conference to his generous act.
5. Conference proceedings, 1869, pp. 2, 3.
6. Conference proceedings, 1873, p. 23

Notes on Chapter XII

- 1 This summary of the work of East Pennsylvania Branch was written by Miss Susan J. Balsbaugh of Cleona, Pennsylvania, and submitted in July 1943.
- 2 Quoted from the Bonebrake Theological Seminary Bulletin.
- 3 The Landmark's History states that the given name of Dr. Landis' father was Henry. Jessie L. Funkhouser (Mrs. R. D.), a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Landis, informed the writer that his name was Joseph.
- 4 This sketch on Quincy Orphanage and Home, excepting the last sentence, was written by Mr. A. C. Wertsch.
- 5 Information on the organizing and the officers of Mt. Gretna Campmeeting was submitted by Dr. G. A. Richie.

Chapter XIII

Time, Place, and Officers of Annual Sessions

THE ANNUAL The Original

Date	Place of Meeting	Bishop Presiding
1800, Sept. 25	Peter Kemp's ¹ , nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	William Otterbein
1801, Sept. 23	Peter Kemp's ¹ , nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	William Otterbein
1802, Oct. 6	John Cronise's, nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	William Otterbein
1803, Oct. 5	David Snyder's, nr. Newville, Cumberland Co., Pa.	William Otterbein
1804, Oct. 4	David Snyder's, nr. Newville, Cumberland Co., Pa.	Martin Boehm
1805, May 29	Jacob Baulus ² , nr. Middletown, Frederick Co., Md.	William Otterbein
1806, May 21	Lawrence Everhart's, nr. Middletown, Frederick Co., Md.	George A. Geeting ³
1807, May 13	Christian Herr's, nr. Creswell, Lancaster Co., Pa.	Martin Boehm
1808, May 25	Abraham Neiswander's, nr. Winchester, Va.	George A. Geeting ³
1809, May 10	Christian Herr's, nr. Creswell, Lancaster Co., Pa.	Martin Boehm
1810, June 6	John Cronise's ⁴ , nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	George A. Geeting ³
1811, May 23	Joseph Kneig's, Big Spring, Cumberland Co., Pa.	Christopher Grosh ⁵
1812, May 13	Geeting's Meeting-House ⁵ , Washington Co., Md.	George A. Geeting ³
1813, May 5	Christian Herr's, nr. Creswell, Lancaster Co., Pa.	Christopher Grosh ⁵
1814, May 24	Hagerstown Church, Md.	Christian Newcomer
1815, May 9	Henry Kumler's, nr. Greencastle, Franklin Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1816, May 7	David Long's, Pfautz's Valley, Perry Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1817, May 15	Geeting's Meeting-House, Washington Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1818, May 5	Christian Hershey's, nr. Lancaster, Pa.	Andrew Zeller
1819, May 4	Valentine Daub's, nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1820, May 2	Conrad Nicodemus's, Washington Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1821, April 10	Hagerstown Church, Md.	Christian Newcomer
1822, April 9	Joseph Kneig's, Big Spring, Cumberland Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1823, May 6	John Cronise's, nr. Frederick, Frederick Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1824, May 4	Showman's Church, Pleasant Valley, Washington Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1825, May 10	Littlestown, Adams Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1825, Nov. 17	Chambersburg Church, Md.	Christian Newcomer
1826, April 3	John Shopp's, nr. Shiremanstown, Cumberland Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1827, April 3	Joseph Kneig's, Big Spring, Cumberland Co., Pa.	Christian Newcomer
1828, April 1	Union Church, Middletown Valley, Frederick Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1829, April 7	Geeting's Meeting-House, Washington Co., Md.	Christian Newcomer
1830, Mar. 22	Shopp's Church, nr. Shiremanstown, Pa.	Henry Kumler, Sr.
1831, April 19	William Brown's Meeting-House, nr. Newville, Pa.	Henry Kumler, Sr.
1832, April 17	Henry Herr's, Harrisburg, Pa.	Henry Kumler, Sr.
1833, April 9	Annvil ⁶ , Pa.	Henry Kumler, Sr.
1834, April 8	Greencastle, Pa.	William Brown
1835, Mar. 10	Shopp's Church, nr. Shiremanstown, Pa.	William Brown
1836, Mar. 8	Light's Meeting-House, Lebanon, Pa.	Samuel Heistand
1837, Mar. 6	Fetterhoff's Church, Franklin Co., Pa.	Samuel Heistand
1838, Mar. 5	Jacob Erb's, Wormleysburg, Pa.	Samuel Heistand
1839, Mar. 11	Light's Meeting-House, Lebanon, Pa.	Jacob Erb
1840, Feb. 10	Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Md.	Jacob Erb
1841, Mar. 1	Rapho Twp. School House ⁹ , (Elm Tree), nr. Mt. Joy, Pa.	Jacob Erb
1842, Jan. 24	Funk's School House, Powell's Valley, Dauphin Co., Pa.	Jacob Erb
1843, Feb. 22	Fetterhoff's Church, Franklin Co., Pa.	Jacob Erb
1844, Feb. 21	Shopp's Church, nr. Shiremanstown, Pa.	Jacob Erb
1845, Feb. 12	Highspire, Pa.	Henry Kumler, Jr.
1846, Feb. 20	Florin ¹⁰ , Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner

East

1847, Mar. 4	Brightbill's Church, Lebanon Co., Pa.	William Hanby
1848, Feb. 24	Annvil ⁶ , Pa.	John Russel
1849, Feb. 14	Myerstown, Pa.	John Russel
1850, Feb. 7	Hummelstown, Pa.	Jacob Erb
1851, Jan. 27	Ranck's Church, Lancaster Co., Pa.	Jacob Erb
1852, Feb. 12	Mountville, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1853, Jan. 26	Zion's Church, Powell's Valley, Dauphin Co., Pa.	Jacob Erb
1854, Jan. 12	Salem Church, Lebanon, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1855, Jan. 12	Zion Church, Reading, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1856, Jan. 17	Grantville ¹¹ , Dauphin Co., Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1857, Jan. 15	Annvil ⁶ , Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1858, Jan. 14	Millheim, Center Co., Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1859, Jan. 12	Union Deposit, Dauphin Co., Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1860, Jan. 12	Florin, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1861, Jan. 10	Pinegrove, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1862, Feb. 27	McKees Half Falls, Snyder Co., Pa.	Jacob Markwood
1863, Feb. 26	Hummelstown, Pa.	Jacob Markwood
1864, Feb. 26	Schuykill Haven, Pa.	Jacob Markwood
1865, Feb. 23	Salem Church, Lebanon, Pa.	Jacob Markwood
1866, Feb. 22	Columbia, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1867, Feb. 21	Annvil ⁶ , Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1868, Feb. 20	Allentown, Zion Church, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner
1869, Feb. 22	Mt. Joy, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner

TIME, PLACE, AND OFFICERS OF ANNUAL SESSIONS

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Conference

Date	Presiding Elders	Secretaries
1800		George A. Geeting
1801		George A. Geeting
1802		George A. Geeting
1803		George A. Geeting
1804		George A. Geeting
1805		George A. Geeting
1806		George A. Geeting
1807		Christian Newcomer
1808		George A. Geeting
1809		Christian Newcomer
1810		George A. Geeting
1811		George A. Geeting
1812	John Neidig, Christopher Grosh	Christian Newcomer
1813		Christian Smith
1814	Christian Hershey	Jacob Baulus
1815	Christian Hershey	Jacob Baulus
1816	Abraham Mayer, Joseph Hoffman, Jacob Baulus	Jacob Baulus
1817	John Snyder, Henry Kumler, Sr.	Jacob Baulus, John Hildt
1818		Christian Newcomer
1819	Samuel Huber, Abraham Mayer, Jacob Baulus	Jacob Baulus, John Hildt
1820	G. Geeting, Jr., S. Huber, A. Mayer, J. Neidig	John Hildt
1821		John Hildt
1822		John Hildt
1823	J. Snyder, Wm. Brown, A. Hershey, A. Mayer, J. Hildt	John Hildt
1824		John Hildt, J. G. Pfrimmer
1825		William Brown, Gideon Smith
1825		William Brown, Gideon Smith
1826	John Neidig, Samuel Huber, David Baer	Henry Spayth
1827	John Snyder, George Geeting, Jr.	Jacob Erb
1828	John Snyder, William Brown	Jacob Erb
1829	John Snyder, William Rinehart	William Brown, Jacob Erb
1830	John Snyder, William Rinehart	John Eckstein, William Rinehart
1831	Ezekiel Boring, William Brown	William Scholde, William Rinehart
1832	Ezekiel Boring, William Brown	Jacob Erb, William Rinehart
1833	Jacob Erb, Ezekiel Boring, James Neiman	John Reider
1834	Jacob Erb, James Neiman, David Runk	Jacob Snyder, William Rinehart
1835	Jacob Erb, James Neiman, John Reider	Jacob Snyder, Frederick Gilbert
1836	John Light, Valentine Hiskey, Herman Au, Jacob Winter	John Dinstanten, Frederick Gilbert
1837	John Light, John R. Sitman, John Snyder, Samuel Huber	Jacob Erb, George Miller
1838	John Light, John R. Sitman, John Snyder, Samuel Huber	Daniel Peiffer, John G. Snyder
1839	Jacob Wenger, Samuel Huber	Casper Light, Jacob S. Kessler
1840	John Light, John Fohl	Christian Peffley, Jacob S. Kessler
1841	John Light, John Fohl	Casper Light, Martin Lohr
1842	John Fohl, Casper Light	John G. Snyder, Philip Frey
1843	Casper Light, John Russel	Martin Lohr, Philip Frey
1844	Casper Light, John Russel	Jacob Rinehart, Philip Frey
1845	John Light, John Russel, Christian Peffley	Simon Dreisbach, Henry Staub
1846	Christian Peffley, Casper Light	Enoch Hoffman, Henry Staub

Pennsylvania

1847	Christian Peffley, Jacob Rupp	Henry Staub, Joseph Young, Jr.
1848	Christian S. Crider, Samuel Seiders	Henry Staub, Sol. VonNeida
1849	Christian Peffley, Christian S. Crider	Sol. VonNeida, Joseph Young, Jr.
1850	Casper Light, Christian Peffley	Joseph Young, Jr., Christian Peffley
1851	Christian Peffley, John A. Sand	Sol. VonNeida, Joseph Young, Jr.
1852	John A. Sand, Solomon VonNeida	Sol. VonNeida, John Q. Adams
1853	Solomon VonNeida, Christian Peffley	Sol. VonNeida, John Q. Adams
1854	Henry Schropp, John Stamm, Jacob Brewer	John Q. Adams, Jacob Doerkson
1855	John Stamm, Christian Peffley, Jacob Brewer	John Q. Adams, Jacob Doerkson
1856	John Stamm, Christian Peffley, Samuel Seiders	Jacob Shaffner, Jacob Doerkson
1857	Andrew Steigerwalt, Simon Noll ¹²	Jacob Doerkson, David Strickler
1858	Andrew Steigerwalt, David Strickler, Jacob Brewer	Jacob Doerkson, David Strickler
1859	David Strickler, John Stamm	Jacob Doerkson, David Strickler
1860	Henry Schropp, Andrew Steigerwalt	Lewis W. Craumer, David Strickler
1861	Henry Schropp, David Hoffman	Jacob Doerkson, David Strickler
1862	David Hoffman, David Strickler	Jacob Doerkson, David Strickler
1863	George A. Mark, Jr., David Strickler	G. W. M. Rigor, Lewis W. Craumer
1864	George A. Mark, Jr., David Strickler	G. W. M. Rigor, Jacob Doerkson
1865	George A. Mark, Jr., Jacob Brewer	G. W. M. Rigor, Lewis W. Craumer
1866	George A. Mark, Jr., Jacob Brewer	Ezekiel Light, Lewis W. Craumer
1867	George A. Mark, Jr., Ezekiel Light	G. W. M. Rigor, Ezekiel Light
1868	George A. Mark, Jr., Ezekiel Light	G. W. M. Rigor, Ezekiel Light
1869	Joseph B. Daugherty, Ezekiel Light, David Hoffman	G. W. M. Rigor, J. W. Kunkle

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Date	Place of Meeting	Bishop Presiding
1870, Mar. 7	Reading, Zion, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1871, Mar. 8	Mountville, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1872, Mar. 7	Boas Street Church, Harrisburg, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1873, Mar. 6	Annvile, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1874, Mar. 4	Schuylk Haven, Pa.	David Edwards.
1875, Feb. 24	Halifax, Pa.	David Edwards.
1876, Feb. 23	Hummelstown, Pa.	David Edwards.
1877, Feb. 14	Boas Street Church, Harrisburg, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1878, Mar. 13	Mt. Joy, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1879, Mar. 12	Annvile, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1880, Mar. 17	Reading, Otterbein, Pa.	John Dickson.
1881, Feb. 23	Steelton, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.

East Pennsylvania and

1882, Feb. 22	Harrisburg, Memorial ¹⁴ , Pa.	John Dickson.
1883, Feb. 28	Chambersburg, First, Pa.	John Dickson.
1884, Feb. 27	York, First, Pa.	John Dickson.
1885, Feb. 25	Lebanon, Trinity, Pa.	John Dickson.

East

1886, Feb. 17	Mountville, Pa.	John Dickson.
1887, Feb. 23	Annvile, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1888, Feb. 23	Columbia, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1889, Feb. 21	Harrisburg, Memorial, Pa.	Nicholas Castle.
1889, Oct. 9	Annvile, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1890, Oct. 8	Mountville, Pa.	John Dickson.
1891, Oct. 8	Reading, Otterbein, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1892, Oct. 12	Lebanon, Trinity, Pa.	Nicholas Castle.
1893, Oct. 11	Steelton, Pa.	John Dickson.
1894, Oct. 3	Ephrata, Pa.	James W. Hott.
1895, Sept. 25	Penbrook, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1896, Sept. 30	Middletown, Pa.	Nicholas Castle.
1897, Oct. 6	Lancaster, Covenant, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1898, Sept. 28	Harrisburg, Derry Street, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1899, Sept. 27	Columbia, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1900, Sept. 26	Steelton, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1901, Oct. 2	Reading, Zion, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1902, Oct. 8	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1903, Oct. 7	Annvile, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1904, Oct. 5	Elizabethtown, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1905, Oct. 4	Columbia, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1906, Oct. 10	Reading, Salem, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1907, Oct. 2	Elizabethtown, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1908, Sept. 30	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1909, Sept. 29	Harrisburg, First, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1910, Oct. 5	Sunbury, Pa.	William M. Weekley.
1911, Oct. 4	Reading, Zion, Pa.	George M. Matthews.
1912, Oct. 2	Ephrata, Pa.	George M. Matthews.
1913, Oct. 1	Allentown, Linden Street, Pa.	William M. Weekley.
1914, Sept. 30	Philadelphia, Second, Pa.	William M. Weekley.
1915, Sept. 29	Harrisburg, Sixth Street, Pa.	William M. Weekley.
1916, Sept. 27	Philadelphia, Second, Pa.	William M. Weekley.
1917, Oct. 3	Annvile, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1918, Oct. 2	Myerstown, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1919, Oct. 1	Reading, Salem, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1920, Sept. 29	Palmyra, First, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1921, Sept. 28	Lykens, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1922, Sept. 27	Sunbury, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1923, Sept. 26	Penbrook, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1924, Sept. 24	Avon, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1925, Sept. 29	Mt. Joy, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1926, Sept. 28	Steelton, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1927, Sept. 27	Lancaster, Otterbein, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1928, Sept. 25	Philadelphia, Second, Pa.	William M. Bell.
1929, Oct. 1	Harrisburg, Otterbein, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1930, Sept. 23	Shamokin, First.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1931, Sept. 29	Annvile, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1932, Sept. 27	Harrisburg, State Street, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1933, Sept. 26	Reading, Salem, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1934, Sept. 25	Penbrook, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1935, Sept. 24	Lancaster, Covenant, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1936, Sept. 22	Millersburg, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1937, Sept. 28	Harrisburg, Otterbein, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1938, Sept. 27	Annvile, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1939, Sept. 26	Harrisburg, Derry Street, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1940, Oct. 1	Lebanon, Trinity, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1941, Sept. 30	Harrisburg, Sixth Street, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1942, Sept. 29	Annvile, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1943, Sept. 28	Lancaster, Covenant, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.
1944, Sept. 26	Harrisburg, Otterbein, Pa.	Grant D. Batdorf.

TIME, PLACE, AND OFFICERS OF ANNUAL SESSIONS

Date	Presiding Elders	Secretaries
1870	Ezekiel Light, Ex-Bishop Jacob Markwood.....	C. T. Poulton, Lewis W. Craumer
1871	Lewis Peters, Jacob Doerkson.....	G. W. M. Rigor, J. H. Witmer
1872	Lewis Peters, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, Joseph C. Mumma
1873	Lewis Peters, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell ¹⁵
1874	Lewis Peters, G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell
1875	Isaiah Baltzell, Ezekiel Light.....	G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell
1876	Isaiah Baltzell, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell
1877	Isaiah Baltzell, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, J. Wesley Etter
1878	Martin J. Mumma, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma
1879	Martin J. Mumma, Isaiah Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma
1880	Martin J. Mumma, Lewis Peters.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma
1881	Ezekiel Light, Lewis Peters.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma

Pennsylvania (Joint Sessions)

1882	W. J. Beamer, L. Peters, C. T. Stearn, E. Light.....	G. W. M. Rigor, J. R. Hutchinson
1883	E. Light, C. T. Stearn, W. J. Beamer, I. Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, J. R. Hutchinson
1884	E. Light, C. T. Stearn, W. J. Beamer, I. Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, J. R. Hutchinson
1885	C. T. Stearn, W. J. Beamer, I. Baltzell, G. W. M. Rigor ¹⁵	G. W. M. Rigor, J. R. Hutchinson

Pennsylvania

1886	Isaiah Baltzell, G. W. M. Rigor.....	G. W. M. Rigor, D. D. Lowery
1887	G. W. M. Rigor, Isaiah Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma ¹⁶
1888	Isaiah Baltzell, Hiram B. Dohner.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma
1889	Hiram B. Dohner, Isaiah Baltzell.....	G. W. M. Rigor, M. J. Mumma
1889	Martin J. Mumma, Hiram B. Dohner.....	M. J. Mumma, Z. A. Weidler
1890	Martin J. Mumma, Hiram B. Dohner.....	M. J. Mumma, Z. A. Weidler
1891	Hiram B. Dohner.....	M. J. Mumma, Z. A. Weidler
1892	Hiram B. Dohner.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1893	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1894	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1895	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1896	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1897	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1898	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1899	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1900	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, E. A. G. Bossler
1901	Henry S. Gabel, Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, C. E. Boughter
1902	Henry S. Gabel, Daniel D. Lowery.....	Z. A. Weidler, C. E. Boughter
1903	Daniel D. Lowery, Henry S. Gabel.....	Z. A. Weidler, C. E. Boughter
1904	Daniel D. Lowery, Henry S. Gabel ¹⁷	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1905	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1906	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1907	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1908	Daniel D. Lowery ¹⁸	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1909	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1910	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1911	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1912	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1913	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1914	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1915	Daniel D. Lowery.....	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1916	Daniel D. Lowery ¹⁹	Joseph A. Lyter, C. E. Boughter
1917	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, P. H. Balsbaugh
1918	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, P. H. Balsbaugh
1919	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, O. T. Ehrhart
1920	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, O. T. Ehrhart
1921	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, O. T. Ehrhart
1922	Schuyler C. Enck.....	C. E. Boughter, O. T. Ehrhart
1923	Schuyler C. Enck.....	Joseph A. Lyter, O. T. Ehrhart
1924	Schuyler C. Enck.....	Joseph A. Lyter, O. T. Ehrhart
1925	Schuyler C. Enck.....	Joseph A. Lyter, O. T. Ehrhart
1926	Schuyler C. Enck.....	Joseph A. Lyter, O. T. Ehrhart
1927	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1928	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1929	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1930	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1931	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1932	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1933	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1934	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1935	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1936	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1937	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1938	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1939	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1940	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1941	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1942	Schuyler C. Enck.....	O. T. Ehrhart, D. E. Young
1943	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1944	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Date	Place of Meeting	Bishop Presiding
1945, Sept. 25	Palmyra, First, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.
1946, Sept. 24	Harrisburg, State Street, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.
1947, Sept. 30	Harrisburg, State Street, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.
1948, Sept. 28	Mt. Joy, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.
1949, Sept. 27	Millersburg, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.
1950, Sept. 19	Annvile, Pa.	J. Balmer Showers.

East

1870, Mar. 3	Reading, Zion, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1871, Mar. 1	Myerstown, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1872, Feb. 29	Bellegrove, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1873, Feb. 27	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1874, Feb. 26	Allentown, Pa.	David Edwards.
1875, Feb. 18	Reading, Third, Pa.	David Edwards.
1876, Feb. 17	Lykens, Pa.	David Edwards.
1877, Feb. 21	Pinegrove, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1878, Feb. 27	Myerstown, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1879, Feb. 19	Florin (German Church ²⁰), Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1880, Feb. 25	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1881, Feb. 16	Harrisburg, Pa.	J. J. Glossbrenner.
1881, Oct. 5	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	John Dickson.
1882, Oct. 4	Pinegrove, Pa.	John Dickson.
1883, Oct. 3	Reading, Pa.	John Dickson.
1884, Oct. 1	Allentown, Zion, Pa.	John Dickson.
1885, Oct. 8	Myerstown, Pa.	John Dickson.
1886, Sept. 30	Shamokin, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1887, Sept. 27	Schuylkill Haven, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1888, Sept. 26	Baltimore, Third, Md.	Nicholas Castle.
1889, Oct. 16	Elizabethville, Pa.	Jonathan Weaver.
1890, Oct. 1	Lebanon, Memorial, Pa.	John Dickson.
1891, Sept. 30	Myerstown, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1892, Oct. 5	Reading, Zion, Pa.	Nicholas Castle.
1893, Oct. 5	Lykens, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1894, Sept. 26	Lebanon, Salem, Pa.	James W. Hott.
1895, Oct. 2	Allentown, Zion, Pa.	Job S. Mills.
1896, Sept. 23	Avon, Pa.	Nicholas Castle.
1897, Sept. 30	Shamokin, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1898, Oct. 6	Reading, Salem, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1899, Oct. 5	Myerstown, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.
1900, Oct. 4	Palmyra, First, Pa.	Ezekiel B. Kephart.

Those who may have occasion to refer to the Annual Conference Minutes may discover differences between the above listing and the contents of the Minutes. The notes appended are for an explanation of these differences and for other clarifications.

¹The Minutes give, "house of Frederick Kemp." Frederick Kemp, after the death of his wife, made his home with the son, Peter Kemp, to whom the property came by the father's will, in the year 1804.

²According to the Minutes, this conference was held at Christian Newcomer's, but according to Newmer himself, N. J. p. 131, at Jacob Baulus'.

³Served as chairman of the conference session in the absence of a Bishop.

⁴According to N. J. p. 188, at Andrew Kauffman's, which was in the same locality.

⁵Variously called: Geeting Meeting House or School House; or Snavely's, or Mt. Hebron Church.

⁶Now for the first time called, "traveling presiding elders." Those previously named, as such, were overseers of the work in the respective districts where they resided, and served without salary. The above list, prior to this year, is incomplete.

⁷The minutes give location as Washington County, which is incorrect. N. J. p. 316 states, "at Jacob Thomas' in Frederick County." The discrepancy may be explained by saying that the sessions were held in the church, whereas the brethren lodged at the home of the person whose name is given, which would be nearby. This is more definitely so for the session of the year 1831—the minutes state, for that year, "conference . . . met at William Brown's, in the meeting-house."

⁸Then known as Millerstown, and so given several times.

⁹Minutes give, "School house No. 3." It was known as "Strickler's," now, "Elm Tree," the old school house was about a mile south of Eby's or Strickler's church.

TIME, PLACE, AND OFFICERS OF ANNUAL SESSIONS

Date	Presiding Elders	Secretaries
1945	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1946	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1947	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1948	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1949	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine
1950	David E. Young.....	O. T. Ehrhart, Cawley H. Stine

German

1870	Joseph B. Daugherty.....	Lewis W. Craumer, John W. Kunkle
1871	David Hoffman, Henry Schropp.....	Lewis W. Craumer
1872	David Hoffman, Henry H. Gelbach.....	John W. Kunkle
1873	Henry Schropp, Henry H. Gelbach.....	Job Light, John W. Kunkle
1874	Jacob Runk, Job Light.....	Lewis W. Craumer, George Stoll
1875	Jacob Runk, Job Light.....	David Strickler
1876	Jacob Runk, Job Light.....	David Strickler
1877	Jacob Runk, Job Light.....	David Strickler
1878	Henry H. Gelbach, Lewis W. Craumer.....	David Strickler
1879	Henry H. Gelbach, Lewis W. Craumer.....	David Strickler
1880	Henry H. Gelbach, Lewis W. Craumer.....	D. S. Longenecker
1881	Henry H. Gelbach, Lewis W. Craumer, Sol. M. Hummel.....	D. S. Longenecker, Gottlieb Meyer
1881	Henry H. Gelbach, Lewis W. Craumer, David Hoffman.....	D. S. Longenecker, Gottlieb Meyer
1882	Amos Graul, David Hoffman, James Shoop.....	D. S. Longenecker, Gottlieb Meyer
1883	Amos Graul, David Hoffman ¹¹ , James Shoop.....	D. S. Longenecker, Gottlieb Meyer
1884	Amos Graul, James Shoop, Joseph Daugherty.....	D. S. Longenecker, Gottlieb Meyer
1885	Amos Graul, James Shoop, Joseph Daugherty.....	D. S. Longenecker
1886	Amos Graul, James Shoop, Joseph Daugherty.....	D. S. Longenecker
1887	Amos Graul, Jacob H. Mark, Jacob Runk.....	D. S. Longenecker
1888	Amos Graul, Jacob H. Mark, Jacob Runk.....	D. S. Longenecker
1889	Jacob Runk, James Shoop, James G. Fritz.....	A. M. Blecher, D. S. Longenecker ²²
1890	Jacob Runk, James Shoop.....	Clint S. Miller, J. H. VonNeida
1891	James Shoop, William H. Uhler.....	Clint S. Miller, J. H. VonNeida
1892	James Shoop, William H. Uhler.....	Clint S. Miller, Charles Bauer
1893	James Shoop, William H. Uhler.....	Clint S. Miller, Charles Bauer
1894	William H. Uhler, Henry S. Gabel.....	Clint S. Miller, A. M. Blecher
1895	William H. Uhler, Henry S. Gabel.....	Clint S. Miller, J. H. VonNeida
1896	William H. Uhler, Henry S. Gabel.....	Clint S. Miller, J. H. Johnson
1897	William H. Uhler, Henry S. Gabel.....	J. H. Johnson, Charles Bauer
1898	Henry S. Gabel.....	C. E. Boughter, S. B. Wengert
1899	Henry S. Gabel.....	C. E. Boughter, S. B. Wengert
1900	Henry S. Gabel.....	C. E. Boughter, S. B. Wengert

¹⁰The village now called Florin, was then called Springville, but the post office was Spring Garden.

¹¹Formerly called Mechanicsville, which appears in the Minutes.

¹²Henry Schropp was elected, but Simon Noll served.

¹³During some years there were additional secretaries. This year, for instance, G. W. M. Rigor was secretary; Joseph C. Mumma, Isaiah Baltzell, and Ezekiel Light were assistants.

¹⁴Boas Street, Memorial and First Church, all refer to the present, First Church, Harrisburg, Pa.

¹⁵Ezekiel Light had also been elected, and served until he was elected editor of German Literature, after which his district was served by G. W. M. Rigor.

¹⁶From the year 1887 to 1900 inclusive, the second person named, served as Statistical Secretary.

¹⁷Daniel D. Lowery served both the eastern and the western districts, from July 15 on, Henry S. Gabel having been elected Church Erection Secretary.

¹⁸The official designation now is Conference Superintendent, instead of formerly Presiding Elder.

¹⁹After the death of Doctor Lowery, May 29, 1917, Reverends Lyter, Enck, and H. E. Miller were appointed to supervise the work.

²⁰The Minutes state, "held at Spring Garden," see note (10). There was a second church erected in Florin in 1876, where the German element worshipped.

²¹David Hoffman died late in the conference year, Henry H. Gelbach completed the term.

²²From this year on the second person named was the Statistical Secretary. In addition to those given above there were others who served as assistants.

Chapter XIV.

GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

The following list of delegates to the General Conference of the Church is made so inclusive as to show who, from the first Conference to and including that of 1945, represented the area east of the Susquehanna River. All delegates present at the general sessions of 1815 and 1817 are listed. The place names given for the year 1821 are evidently intended to be those of districts, not of annual conferences. The names of the conferences in the east, 1825 to 1845, are here given as listed by Dr. Drury who no doubt copied them as recorded in the General Conference journals. Lay delegates were first elected in 1893. The date of the opening session, place held, and names of delegates follow.

The Original Conference

1815—June 6, Bonner's Schoolhouse, Near Mt. Pleasant, Pa.

Christian Newcomer	Abraham Draksel	Abraham Hiestand
Christian Berger	Andrew Zeller	Abraham Mayer
Daniel Troyer	John Snyder	George Benedum
Henry Kumler Sr.	Henry G. Spayth	Isaac Nieswander
Christian Crum	Jacob Baulus	

1817—June 2, Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pa.

Christian Newcomer	Andrew Zeller	Abraham Mayer
Joseph Hoffman	John Snyder	Henry Kumler Sr.
Jacob Dehoff	Lewis Kramer	Dewalt Mechlin
Henry G. Spayth	Conrad Roth	Herman Au

1821—May 15, Dewalt Mechlin's, Fairfield County, Ohio

Maryland:	Sameul Huber	William Brown
Carlisle:	Michael Bear ¹	
Virginia:	George Geeting	Daniel Peiffer

Hagerstown Conference

1825—May 7, Jacob Shaup's, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

Abraham Mayer	John Hildt	Jacob Daup
Daniel Peiffer	William Brown	

1829—May 15, Dewalt Mechlin's, Fairfield County, Ohio

William Brown	Thomas Miller	Henry Burtner
John Zahn	Jacob Erb	Simon Dresbach
John Hendricks	Ezekiel Boring	

GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Pennsylvania Conference

**1833—May 14, Dresbach Church, On line of Pickaway and
Fairfield Counties, Ohio**

Ezekiel Boring	Jacob Erb	John Snyder
William Brown	James Neiman	Frederick Gilbert

1837—May 9, Germantown, Ohio

Jacob Erb	Jacob Winter
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**1841—May 10, Dresbach Church, On line of Pickaway and
Fairfield Counties, Ohio**

John Russel	Jacob Roop
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1845—May 10, Circleville, Ohio

John Russel	(J. S. Kessler and Simon Dresbach were absent)
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East Pennsylvania Conference

1849—May 14, Germantown, Ohio

Christian Peffley	Jacob Roop	David Gingrich Jr.
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1853—May 9, Miltonville, Ohio

Simon Dresbach	Solomon VonNieda	John Adam Sand
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1857—May 12, Cincinnati First Church, Ohio

Jacob Brewer	John Stamm	Andrew Steigerwalt
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1861—May 14, College Chapel, Westerville, Ohio

John Stamm	Joseph Young	David Strickler
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1865—May 11, Western, Linn County, Iowa

George A. Mark Jr.	David Strickler	Joseph B. Daugherty
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1869—May 20, Salem Church, Lebanon, Pa.

Ezekiel Light	George A. Mark Jr.	David Hoffman
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1873—May 15, Dayton First Church, Dayton, Ohio

East Pennsylvania Conference

East German Conference

Lewis Peters	Ezekiel Light	Jacob Runk	Henry H. Gelbach
G. W. Miles Rigor		John W. Kunkle	

1877—May 10, College Chapel, Westfield, Illinois

East Pennsylvania Conference

East German Conference

Lewis Peters	G. W. Miles Rigor	Jacob Runk	Job Light
Isaiah Baltzell		David Hoffman	

1881—May 12, Lisbon, Iowa

East Pennsylvania Conference

East German Conference

Lewis Peters	Martin J. Mumma	David Hoffman	Henry H. Gelbach
Isaiah Baltzell		Lewis W. Craumer	

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

1885—May 14, Fostoria, Ohio

Pennsylvania Conference
(Joint sessions of Penn, and
East Penn)

East German Conference

W. J. Beamer	C. F. Stern	Lewis E. Craumer	Amos Graul
Ezekiel Light	Z. A. Colestock	Joseph B. Daugherty	

1889—May 9, York, Pennsylvania

East Pennsylvania Conference

East German Conference

Isaiah Baltzell	J. Wesley Etter	Jacob H. Mark	Amos Graul
G. W. Miles Rigor		Jacob Runk	

1893—May 1, Dayton, Ohio

East Pennsylvania Conference

Ministers

Laymen

Hiram B. Dohner	Cyrus J. Kephart	C. B. Rettew	S. R. Grabill
Martin J. Mumma	D. D. Lowery		

East German Conference

Ministers

Laymen

James Shoop	William H. Uhler	W. B. Light
Henry S. Gabel		

1897—May 13, Toledo, Iowa

East Pennsylvania Conference

Ministers

Laymen

D. D. Lowery	Cyrus J. Kephart	W. H. Ulrich	J. G. Stehman
H. C. Phillips	Hiram B. Dohner		

East German Conference

Ministers

Laymen

Henry S. Gabel	William H. Uhler	Isaac B. Haak
J. P. Smith		

1901—May 9, Frederick, Maryland

East Pennsylvania Conference

Ministers

Laymen

D. D. Lowery	Martin J. Mumma	Jacob Sneath	W. H. Ulrich
J. R. Meredith	S. C. Enck		

East German Conference

Ministers

Laymen

Henry S. Gabel	Jacob Runk	Isaac B. Haak	A. D. Zimmerman
D. S. Longenecker	J. A. Keiper		

1905—May 11, Topeka, Kansas

East Pennsylvania Conference

Ministers

Laymen

Henry S. Gabel	M. J. Mumma	T. G. Spangler	J. G. Stehman
D. D. Lowery	H. U. Roop	B. H. Engle	Henry J. Roop
I. H. Albright		E. B. Bierman	

GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

1909—May 13, Canton, Ohio

Ministers

C. I. B. Brane
Henry S. Gabel
H. E. Miller

D. D. Lowery
A. A. Long

Laymen

S. F. Engle
T. G. Spangler
W. H. Ulrich

Henry J. Roop
J. G. Stehman

1913—May 8, Decatur, Illinois

Ministers

D. D. Lowery
J. A. Lyter
H. E. Miller

I. H. Albright
I. E. Runk

Laymen

S. F. Engle
Henry J. Roop
A. L. Lessley

J. E. Lehman
C. L. Grabill

1917—May 10, Wichita, Kansas

Ministers

D. D. Lowery
I. H. Albright
J. A. Lyter
G. D. Batdorf

S. C. Enck
H. E. Miller
R. R. Butterwick

Laymen

A. S. Kreider
A. S. Light
Henry J. Roop
E. P. Strickler

J. R. Engle
C. L. Grabill
G. A. Stengle

1921—May 12, Indianapolis, Indiana

Ministers

S. C. Enck
R. R. Butterwick
G. D. Batdorf

J. A. Lyter
H. E. Miller
B. F. Daugherty

Laymen

A. S. Kreider
H. L. Carl
H. G. Longenecker

J. R. Engle
C. L. Grabill
S. D. Clark

1925—May 14, Buffalo, New York

Ministers

S. C. Enck
I. Moyer Hershey
R. R. Butterwick

J. A. Lyter
A. S. Lehman
H. E. Miller

Laymen

A. S. Kreider
C. L. Grabill
M. K. Light

J. R. Engle
H. L. Carl
H. H. Baish

1929—May 14, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Ministers

S. C. Enck
H. E. Miller²
H. F. Rhoad
B. F. Daugherty

I. Moyer Hershey
O. T. Ehrhart
A. S. Lehman

Laymen

J. R. Engle
C. L. Grabill
M. H. Bachman
H. H. Baish

A. S. Kreider³
A. C. Spangler
H. L. Carl

1933—May 9, Akron, Ohio

Ministers

S. C. Enck
H. E. Schaeffer
J. O. Jones
O. T. Ehrhart

H. E. Miller
H. F. Rhoad
A. S. Lehman

Laymen

J. R. Engle
O. E. Good
C. L. Grabill
M. H. Bachman

H. H. Baish
A. C. Spangler
M. K. Light

1937—May 11, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Ministers

S. C. Enck
H. E. Miller
P. B. Gipple
H. F. Rhoad

C. A. Lynch
H. E. Schaeffer
O. T. Ehrhart
D. E. Young

Laymen

J. R. Engle
Clayton Hertzler
O. E. Good
H. H. Baish

A. C. Spangler
J. E. Gipple
I. E. Shoop
John Adams

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

1941—May 13, South Bend, Indiana

Ministers

C. A. Lynch
H. F. Rhoad
H. E. Schaeffer
T. J. Barnhart

S. C. Enck
H. E. Miller
P. B. Gible
D. E. Young

Laymen

J. R. Engle
I. E. Shoop
H. H. Baish
Park H. Fegley
A. C. Spangler
J. E. Gipple
M. H. Bachman
O. E. Good

1945—May 15, Westerville, Ohio

Ministers

D. E. Young
S. C. Enck
H. F. Rhoad
P. B. Gible

C. A. Lynch
O. T. Ehrhart
H. E. Schaeffer
H. E. Miller¹

Laymen

A. C. Spangler
Park H. Fegley
A. E. Hershey
F. C. Witmer
I. E. Shoop
Roy K. Garber
J. Paul Rupp
E. W. Coble

Notes on Chapter XIV.

- 1 Three delegates elected from Pennsylvania did not present themselves, Drury, p. 335.
- 2 H. E. Miller was elected, H. E. Schaeffer as first ministerial alternate was seated.
- 3 A. S. Kreider was elected, I. E. Shoop as first alternate lay delegate was seated.
- 4 H. E. Miller was elected, on account of illness did not attend, C. R. Beittel was first Alternate, and was present.

APPENDIX A.

Statistics, Conference Year 1945-46

The two following pages contain the official Conferences statistics on certain items taken from the 1946 Conference Proceedings. These show the increase of the work of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ east of the Susquehanna River, during the last ninety-seven years as compared with that of the first forty-nine years, as may be ascertained by referring to the Statistical Report on page 77 of this book. The totals of Church and Sunday School membership, of contributions, and of property value, give a true picture of the strength of East Pennsylvania Conference as of September 1946. Contributions made through the work of Mt. Gretna Chapel, which was not then organized as a class, are not included.

HISTORY OF EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

NAME OF CHARGE	NAME OF CHURCH	Present Church Membership	Total S. Enrollment	Total Received by Pastor	Total Benevolences	Total for All Purposes	Value of Church Building	Value of Parsonage
1 Allentown.....	Zion.....	333	260	\$ 2650	\$ 1173	\$ 9895	\$ 50000	\$ 10000
2 Allentown.....	Grace.....	164	160	2280	901	6068	30000	6000
3 Annville.....	Annville.....	452	339	3900	6025	14834	120000	10000
4 Aristes.....	Zion.....	178	186	2000	439	3870	20000	5500
5 Avon.....	Zion.....	275	316	1940	1856	7091	51500	3100
6 Bellegrove.....	Bellegrove.....	87	180	562	655	1545	6000	4000
7	Water Works.....	60	89	377	347	1032	5000	.....
8	Kauffman's.....	74	98	471	910	1862	9000	.....
9	Mountville.....	98	189	610	675	1917	15000	.....
10 Brunnerville.....	Brunnerville.....	125	139	540	299	1722	7000	3000
11	Newtown.....	57	81	220	295	1110	4000	.....
12 Catawissa.....	St. Paul's.....	103	80	912	787	2068	2500	5000
13	Fisherdale.....	83	131	576	290	1077	2500	.....
14	Freewill.....	49	46	416	116	726	2500	.....
15 Campbelltown.....	Campbelltown.....	271	374	1998	1363	5624	40000	10000
16	Rocherty.....	91	169	671	339	1913	6000	.....
17	Fontana.....	92	.....	650	597	1481	.....	.....
18 Cleona.....	Emmanuel.....	212	363	1680	2087	6335	36500	8250
19	St. John's.....	112	184	700	581	2724	10000	.....
20 Coatesville.....	Grace.....	200	200	2400	993	3753	25000	4000
21	Elverson.....	11	.....	300	25	307	2000	.....
22 Columbia.....	Salome.....	842	780	3300	5053	19468	54622	5000
23 Cressona.....	Grace.....	80	130	1100	923	3679	15000	10000
24	Landingville.....	81	90	920	1087	3762	5100	.....
25 Denver.....	Trinity.....	215	235	1800	1513	7236	30000	4000
26	Wiest Memorial.....	27	.....	194	15	395	10000	.....
27 Enders-Powl's Valley.....	St. Jacob's.....	105	148	513	135	807	3500	.....
28	Zion.....	84	175	395	168	1100	3500	.....
29	Salem.....	59	82	341	113	639	3000	1400
30	Grace.....	42	38	322	85	453	1800	.....
31	Ebenezer.....	38	106	189	49	439	1250	.....
32	Trinity.....	9	.....	206	18	159	2000	.....
33	Union.....	39	.....	173	29	252	2700	.....
34	St. Paul's.....	13	23	178	19	275	1200	.....
35 Elizabethtown.....	Trinity.....	193	226	1800	1320	4342	30000	7750
36	Berrysburg.....	33	68	375	229	887	4000	2500
37	Forney's.....	62	50	200	103	416	4000	.....
38 Elizabethtown.....	St. Paul's.....	883	825	3400	5365	18819	100000	6000
39 Ephrata.....	First.....	586	555	2700	4273	10303	118350	4700
40 Florin.....	Florin.....	165	294	2300	688	2988	15000	5000
41	Eby's.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
42 Grantville.....	Grantville.....	210	260	1560	715	3941	8000	4500
43	Manada Hill.....	66	90	330	204	862	5000	.....
44 Halifax.....	Otterbein.....	280	272	2100	1526	5218	14000	13000
45 Harrisburg.....	Derry Street.....	1072	846	3680	8291	23342	100000	5000
46 Harrisburg.....	State Street.....	638	805	3600	4528	22945	150000	4000
47 Harrisburg.....	First.....	270	213	2905	2287	10089	35000	6000
48 Harrisburg.....	Sixth Street.....	773	705	3900	3984	23938	55000	16500
49 Harrisburg.....	Otterbein.....	938	655	3800	2265	27084	175000	15000
50 Harrisburg.....	Twenty-ninth Street	363	487	2980	1804	14002	43000	7500
51 Hershey.....	First.....	730	820	3900	5399	16176	140000	16000
52 Highspire.....	Highspire.....	453	394	2480	2169	12698	65500	4000
53 Highville.....	Highville.....	200	150	2400	2255	5673	20000	8000
54 Hillsdale.....	Geyer's.....	154	158	850	1152	2991	5600	3400
55	Falmouth.....	96	72	540	674	2324	2500	.....
56 Hopeland.....	Hopeland.....	275	344	1835	1524	11847	18000	4800
57 Hummelstown Circuit.....	Stoverdale.....	72	90	497	236	1053	5000	.....
58	Shope's.....	65	111	354	157	986	2500	.....
59	Chamber's Hill.....	111	131	870	480	2947	6000	4000
60	Ebenezer.....	27	46	242	105	432	3000	.....
61 Hummelstown.....	First.....	762	587	3200	5264	17235	80000	5037
62 Iona.....	Iona.....	154	253	2000	1237	6043	15104	4300
63 Intercourse.....	Intercourse.....	112	99	1250	513	2211	20000	3500
64	Mt. Tabor.....	90	78	510	270	1262	2000	.....
65 Jonestown Circuit.....	Jonestown.....	95	167	737	819	3578	20000	3500
66	Fredericksburg.....	59	135	509	663	2813	7000	.....
67	Ono.....	97	251	798	424	3242	6500	.....
68 Kochenderfer's.....	Kochenderfer's.....	195	276	1900	1155	4198	15000	5000
69 Lancaster.....	Covenant.....	1239	1457	4140	15133	29203	242000	13250
70 Lancaster.....	Otterbein.....	867	985	3600	7306	30640	120000	10000
71 Lebanon.....	Salem.....	801	1173	3300	8572	22276	95000	5000
72 Lebanon.....	Trinity.....	420	419	2880	2682	10539	60000	4500
73 Lebanon.....	Memorial.....	304	403	2260	2097	10619	30000	7000
74 Lebanon.....	Bethany.....	238	336	2100	1841	5871	10000	3000
75	Mt. Aetna.....	14	47	100	18	146	2500	.....
76 Lebanon.....	West.....	212	289	2130	1234	8570	30000	3900
77 Lebanon.....	Ebenezer.....	161	147	900	870	4977	20000	5000
78 Lebanon.....	Hebron.....	373	610	2280	1578	6661	30000	15000

APPENDIX A.

NAME OF CHARGE	NAME OF CHURCH	Present Church Membership	Total S. Enrollment	Total Received by Pastor	Total Benevolences	Total for All Purposes	Value of Church Building	Value of Parsonage
79 Lebanon.....	Schaefferstown.....	143	211	\$ 900	\$ 883	\$ 3137	\$ 20000	
80 Lickdale.....	Lickdale.....	37	84	125	60	565	15000	
81 Green Point.....	Green Point.....	43	56	100	16	236	4000	
82 Lemberger's.....	Lemberger's.....	54	72	175	127	653	4000	
83 Shirk's.....	Shirk's.....	8		100	78	228	3000	
84 Linglestown.....	Linglestown.....	169	302	1170	773	2814	24000	
85 Colonial Park.....	Colonial Park.....	307	457	1820	927	9984	39500	
86 Lititz.....	Lititz.....	373	365	2300	1868	9371	30000	\$ 3500
87 Lykens.....	Otterbein.....	418	379	2160	2212	6952	30000	8000
88 Manheim.....	Manheim.....	672	720	2000	3516	13891	48000	7000
89 Ruhl's.....	Ruhl's.....	239	218	820	965	4626	8000	
90 Manor.....	Stehman's.....	193	270	1753	901	4459	15000	10000
91 Green Hill.....	Green Hill.....	125	297	667	590	2491	13000	
92 Middletown.....	Middletown.....	625	590	2800	3312	16444	118000	3500
93 Millersburg.....	Millersburg.....	490	412	2900	1706	9597	50000	5000
94 Killinger's.....	Killinger's.....	36	64	125	48	398	1000	
95 Reigel's.....	Reigel's.....	40	32	175	43	433	5500	
96 Mont Clare.....	Mont Clare.....	244	152	2386	938	4392	15000	4000
97 Mt. Carmel.....	Mt. Carmel.....	192	181	2000	868	4642	15000	5000
98 Mt. Joy.....	Mt. Joy.....	611	562	2700	3990	10073	75000	4000
99 Mountville.....	Mountville.....	423	384	2700	3849	8722	60000	5000
100 Myerstown.....	Myerstown.....	375	402	2360	3887	10808	50000	12500
101 Neffsville.....	Neffsville.....	352	335	1600	2787	8039	50000	4500
102 Oregon.....	Oregon.....	60	95	600	551	1694		
103 New Holland.....	New Holland.....	453	488	1455	3974	10869	72000	7000
104 Ranck's.....	Ranck's.....	289	219	1405	1867	8022	12000	5300
105 Northampton.....	Cross Roads.....	44	79	752	116	3551	14000	
106 Point Philips.....	Point Philips.....	30	127	25	80	1420	8000	
107 Oberlin.....	Oberlin.....	336	367	2280	2260	8828	36000	4000
108 Palmyra.....	First.....	691	777	3400	4238	16693	60000	14000
109 Palmyra.....	Second.....	295	457	2560	2309	7239	40000	12000
110 Paradise.....	St. John's.....	550	389	2484	3392	10423	45000	6000
111 Penbrook.....	Penbrook.....	759	657	4000	7516	19911	135000	16000
112 Pequea.....	Limeville.....	181	130	872	466	1820	7000	4000
113 Mt. Zion.....	Mt. Zion.....	182	220	872	290	1627	5000	1500
114 Philadelphia.....	First.....	193	260	2680	672	7422	30000	5000
115 Philadelphia.....	Second.....	304	192	3622	2640	14019	40000	15000
116 Philadelphia.....	Third.....	195	211	2680	2180	11573	50000	6000
117 Philadelphia.....	Fourth.....	85	91	1551	427	3898	12000	
118 Pinegrove.....	Pinegrove.....	292	228	3000	1128	11098	60000	7500
119 Pottstown.....	Pottstown.....	170	248	2045	365	5056	14000	7500
120 Birdsboro.....	Birdsboro.....	89	91	885	244	1813	6000	
121 Reading, Zion.....	Zion.....	300	215	2320	1787	10314	40000	
122 Reading, Salem.....	Salem.....	388	378	3000	3212	13681	50000	7000
123 Reading, Trinity.....	Trinity.....	216	175	2700	890	7319	60000	7000
124 Sinking Springs.....	Sinking Springs.....	40		300	154	616	4000	
125 Royaltown.....	Royaltown.....	147	316	2040	962	4147	15000	8000
126 Rockville.....	Rockville.....	170	195	900	366	3159	26000	
127 Schuylkill Haven.....	Schuylkill Haven.....	315	202	2580	2300	6612	34000	7000
128 Shamokin.....	First.....	544	419	3000	3013	24266	150000	12000
129 Shamokin.....	Second.....	329	397	2060	1421	8201	25000	6000
130 Zion.....	Zion.....	51	80	300	349	1230	5000	
131 Shamokin Circuit.....	Clark's Grove.....	209	230	1200	1086	3564	25000	2500
132 Ash Grove.....	Ash Grove.....	165	237	840	712	3267	25000	
133 Shoemakersville.....	Shoemakersville.....	111	150	1770	1342	4364	42000	
134 Berne.....	Berne.....	73	90	500	670	1657	8000	
135 Steelton.....	Steelton.....	538	446	2560	3579	11393	100000	4000
136 Sunbury.....	Sunbury.....	460	325	2760	2813	8299	36000	7000
137 Silver Springs.....	Silver Springs.....	108	119	580	335	1867	5900	5000
138 Ironville.....	Ironville.....	190	231	900	711	2380	10000	
139 Centerville.....	Centerville.....	63	81	420	404	1395	6000	
140 Tremont.....	Tremont.....	157	138	1176	1091	4133	11000	3000
141 Barry.....	Barry.....	85	130	720	632	1584	4500	5000
142 Union Circuit.....	Union Deposit.....	114	175	840	684	2219	11000	
143 Fishburn's.....	Fishburn's.....	207	302	1438	882	9020	33000	12000
144 Valley View.....	Valley View.....	364	377	1072	1061	3083	14500	2738
145 Fearnot.....	Fearnot.....	94	110	465	251	1001	3200	
146 Sacramento.....	Sacramento.....	27	41	185	54	442	3285	
147 Spring Glen.....	Spring Glen.....	92	143	466	249	1994	9308	
148 West Willow.....	West Willow.....	281	268	1230	872	3512	20000	3000
149 Refton.....	Refton.....	140	160	720	313	1438	5000	3000
150 Williamstown-Tower.....	Williamstown.....	129	160	900	580	2740	32000	4000
151 Tower City.....	Tower City.....	220	200	1100	566	2261	18000	3000
152 Orvin.....	Orvin.....	13					3000	
153 Lincoln Park.....	Lincoln Park.....	35	60	300	119	1143		
Totals.....		37419	40108	232022	237992	944241	\$4681419	\$ 598925

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NJ—*The Life and Journal of the Rev'd. Christian Newcomer*

Reminiscences—*Reminiscences, Historical and Biographical of Rev. Henry Boehm*

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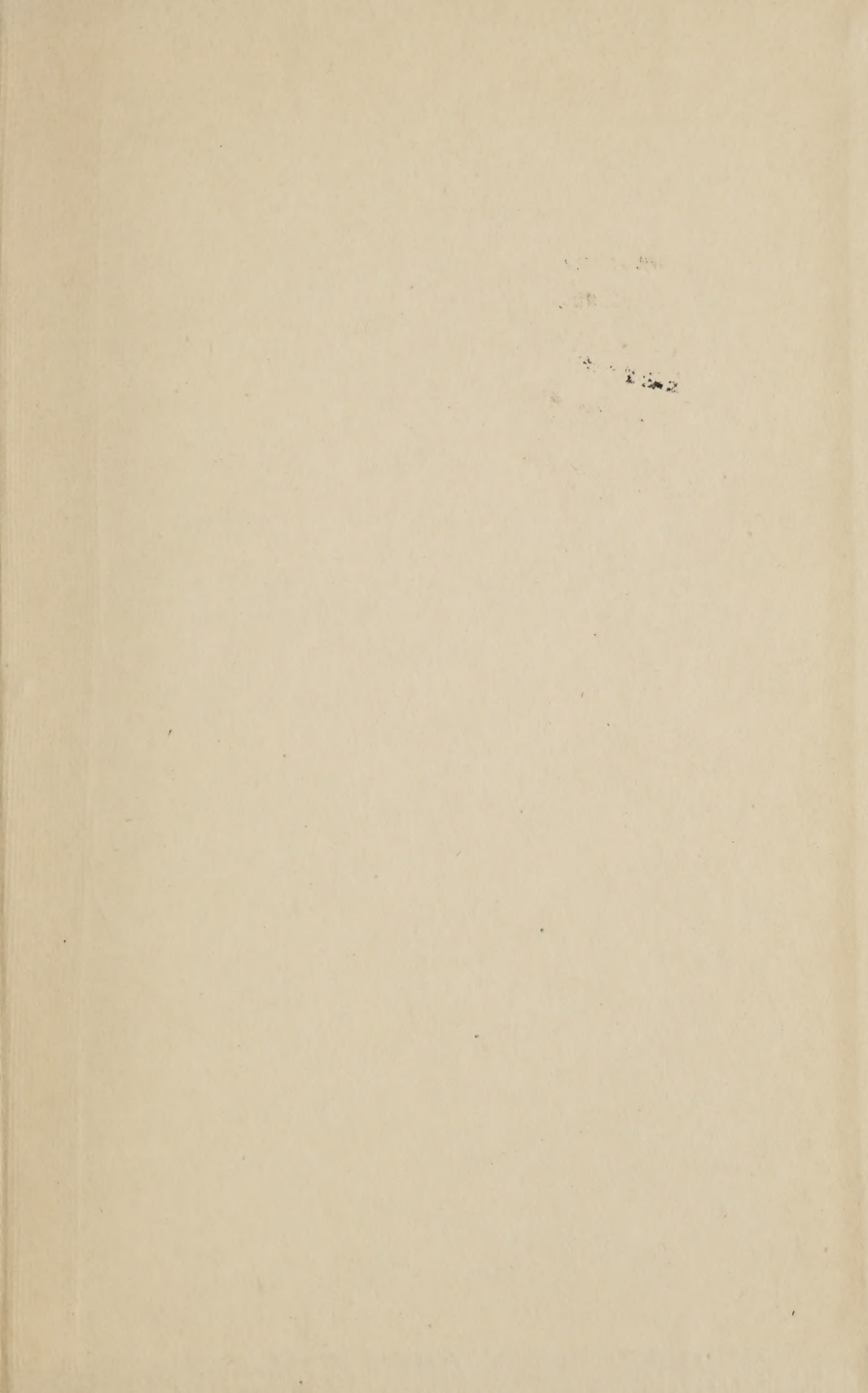
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